California GARDEN

MARCH-APRIL 2003 Volume 94 No. 2 $2.00

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

In Mar. and Apr.
SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDEN is sponsoring several interesting classes and some trips and tours. 805/682-4726.

Mar. 1 Sat.
★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY open from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., also the first and third Saturdays. Members of SDFA can check out books. (Membership $10 a year, includes magazine.) Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 105. 619/232-5762.

Mar. 1 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Citrus Care & Culture. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Spring Rose Care 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 1-2 Sat.-Sun.
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER. Annual Flower Show and Bazaar. 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. both days. Demonstrations at 12, 1, and 2 p.m. each day. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free.

Mar. 1-2 Sat.-Sun.
2003 SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW Outstanding garden speakers and exhibits including **"Spring into San Diego"** by the Palomar District of CGCI. Del Mar Fairgrounds. Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $12.

Mar. 2 Sun.
RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN Arbor Day - A Family Event. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Celebrate California's rich heritage of native tree species. Activity stations and information tables throughout the Garden for families to visit. Tree tours throughout the afternoon. 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. 909/625-8767 ext. 251. Free.

Mar. 3 Mon.
CGCI FLORAL DESIGN FORUM 2002-2003 Gordon Schmuhl, Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 12:30-3:00 p.m. $8 760/749-9608.

Mar. 6 Thurs.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Home Landscape Classes "Essentials of North County Gardening." 7-8:30 p.m. Members $6, non-members $8. Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Register at 760/436-3036, ext. 206.

Mar. 8 Sat.
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB California Nativescapes Botanical Garden Guided Tour at San Diego Wild Animal Park. Meet at Nativescapes Garden entrance at 10:00 a.m. Free with admission. 858/487-2629.

Mar. 8 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Spring Vegetables. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Intro To Garden Railroading with Tom Rey, President, of SDGRS. 9:30 a.m.(1st in 5 part series) at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 8 Sat.
WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN Saturday Seminar "Grow Your Own Salads! Winter Container Gardening." Instructor Joyce Gemmell. 9:30 a.m. 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon. www.thegarden.org or 619/670-2291. Free.

Mar. 8-9 Sat.-Sun.
UC IRVINE ARBORETUM WINTER BULB FESTIVAL "Prelude to Spring." Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Corner of Campus Drive and Jamboree Road on UCI North Campus. Non-members $2, members free. 949/824-5833.

Mar. 10 Mon.
SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Special program featuring renowned plantsman Dan Hinkley of Heronswood Nursery in Washington state. 6:30 p.m. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar. $15 members, $18 non-members. Send check and self-addressed, stamped envelope to SDHS, Att:Hinkley Talk, P.O. Box 231869, Encinitas, CA 92023-1869. 858/756-2579.

Mar. 11 Tues.
★PINE NEEDLE BASKET SDFA class with Martha Rosenberg. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Advanced reservations required. See our ad for details.

Mar. 12 Wed.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Workshop: You and Your Tools. 3-5 p.m. Join tool guru Bob Denman for an intimate look at your relationship with your garden implements. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2128. Members $25, non-members $35.

Mar. 13 Thurs.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Talk & Sale "That's a Good Question." 2:30 p.m. in Friends' Hall. Robert Smaus, former garden editor for the *Los Angeles Times* and author of *Answer for California Gardens*, will answer some of the most frequently asked garden questions. Plant sale follows. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2128. Free.

(continued on page 36)

INCORPORATED MARCH 1910

Published by
San Diego Floral Association
for 92 Years

PUBLICATION STAFF
EDITOR
Jacqueline Coleman

CALENDAR EDITOR
Linda Berger

NOW IS THE TIME EDITOR
John R. Allen

AFFILIATE LISTING EDITOR
Lynn Beyerle

BOOK & VIDEO REVIEW EDITOR
Rosaleen Cox

TOURS EDITOR
Helen Gagliardi

ADVERTISING
Jacqueline Coleman

RENEWALS
Joan Roman

MAILING
Lynn Beyerle

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD
Mort Brigadier
Robert Horwitz
Barbara S. Jones
Betty Newton
Pat Pawlowski

We welcome articles, photographs, drawings, and ideas from amateurs or professionals. Deadlines for a next issue are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We do not pay for articles or artwork. We cannot guarantee the safe return of material. *California Garden* reserves the right to edit any and all submitted material. Submissions must be double spaced and/or on a computer disk from IBM or compatible, in WordPerfect 5.1. DOS. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors of *California Garden*. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.

Send all editorial material and change of address to:

California Garden
San Diego Floral Association
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego CA 92101-1622

California **GARDEN** SINCE 1909
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NO. ISSN 0008-1116
Telephone 619/232-5762
Arrangers Guild Chm. 619/435-8079

MAIL-1650 El Prado #105
San Diego CA 92101-1622
see us at Casa del Prado,
Room 105 Balboa Park
Monday through Friday
10:00AM to 3:00PM
619/232-5762
WWW.SDFLORAL.ORG

VOLUME 94 NUMBER 2

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE HANDS-ON GARDENER
MARCH-APRIL 2003

FEATURES

41 A Gardening Adventure—Site of Christmases Past . . . C. Pardoe
44 Haunting Scents of Paradise—The Unforgettable . . . F. Liljeblad
53 "Spring" into Water Conservation . . . . L. Generoso
53 Jug Watering . . . . C. Buecherl
54 How to Use the Conservation Garden . . . . J. Gemmell
55 Bangkok Gardens . . . . R. Horwitz
56 A.D. Robinson's Dream—The Balboa Park Lath House B. Jones

DEPARTMENTS

34 Horticultural Calendar . . . . L. Berger
39 Gardening Classes . . . . L. Berger
40 Gleanings . . . . B. Jones
48 Now Is the Time . . . . J. Allen
58 Errata . . . . J. Coleman
58 San Diego Floral Association Trip to Virginia . . . H. Gagliardi
59 Book Reviews . . . . R. Cox
61 Affiliates . . . . L. Beyerle
63 San Diego Floral Association Classes . . . . M. Walsh

COVER Copyrighted illustration of regal *Pelargoniums* by Cynthia Pardoe. See back cover for identifications.

Claims and opinions expressed by advertisers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor and publisher of *California Garden* magazine.

Copies of *California Garden* can be ordered by mail for $2.00 per copy plus $1.00 postage. Single copies of the current issue of *California Garden* magazine can be purchased for a donation of $2.00 at the locations listed.

BALBOA PARK VISITORS CENTER, HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY, 1549 El Prado, San Diego CA 92101
CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, 818/447-8207, 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia CA 91006
PASCUA FARMS AND NURSERY, 619/778-7650, 2464 Willow Glen Dr., El Cajon CA 92019
MISSION HILLS NURSERY, 298-2808, 1525 Fort Stockton Drive, San Diego CA 92103
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION, 232-5762, Casa del Prado, Rm. 105, Balboa Park, San Diego CA 92101
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, 224-8271, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego CA 92110
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, 513-4900, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway CA 92064-6847

FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 619/232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (ISSN 0008-1116) is published Bi-Monthly for donations of $8.00 per year or $15.00 for two years, foreign delivery add $6.00 per year, by San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego CA 92101-1622. © San Diego Floral Association, 1992. All rights reserved. Periodicals Postage paid at San Diego CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CALIFORNIA GARDEN, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego CA 92101-1622.

"HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR", CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

Mar. 13 Thurs.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Home Landscape Classes "Pruning Basics." 7-8:30 p.m. Members $6, non-members $8. Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Register at 760/436-3036, ext. 206.

Mar. 15 Sat.
★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY will be open. See Mar. 1 for details.

Mar. 15 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on General Orchid Care. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Proven Winner Perennials followed by BBQ, and free kids' activities. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 15-16 Sat.-Sun.
IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL-Chapter 119 35th Annual Spring Show: Sat. 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sun. 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free. 619/223-8879.

Mar. 18 & 25 Tues.
★GOURD ETCHING, BURNING AND STAINING SDFA class with Mary Jean Wydro. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Advanced reservations required. See our ad for details.

Mar. 19-23 Wed.-Sun.
SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW at the Cow Palace. Wed.-Sat. 9 a.m.- 8 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Group rates available and discounts at certain hotels. See www.gardenshow.com or call 206/789-5333.

Mar. 20 Thurs.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Home Landscape Classes "Home Landscape Design." 7-8:30 p.m. Members $6, non-members $8. Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Register at 760/436-3036, ext. 206.

Mar. 21 Fri.
PLANT DAY AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO Special offerings for garden enthusiasts including self-guided plant tours, a tour of the Zoo's off-exhibit orchid house and seasonal garden activities. Ask for schedule at entrance. Tours free with general admission.

Mar. 21-23 Fri.-Sun.
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY 57th Orchid Show and Sale. Fri. 4-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. General admission $5, children under 12 free. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. 619/660-9810 or www.sdorchids.com.

Mar. 22 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Azaleas & Rhododendrons. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, New Introductions for California Gardens. Presented by a special guest 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 22-23 Sat.-Sun.
CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY 46th Annual Bonsai Show. 10:30 a.m-4:30 p.m. in Friends' Hall, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. General admission.

Mar. 22-23 Sat.-Sun.
TAKA SUMI-E PAINTING SHOW. 11 a.m-4 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Call 619/464-0544 for information. Free.

Mar. 24 Mon.
CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY. Monthly meeting about "Design Ideas for the Show." 10 a.m. You bring lunch: coffee, tea, and desserts furnished by the club. Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista. Pauline, 760/433-4641. Free.

Mar. 28-29 Fri.-Sat.
BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Standard Flower Show "A Flower Show-Weather or Not?" Fri. 2:30-7:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Bonita Valley Baptist Church, 4701 Sweetwater Rd., Bonita. Laura 619/435-1631 or email: lrock1221@aol.com.

Mar. 28-29 Fri.-Sat.
SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB Annual Flower Show "Art and Floral Design." 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Mission Valley Branch Library (next to IKEA). Free.

Mar. 28-30 Fri.-Sun.
SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW 58th Annual Orchid Show "It had To Be Orchids." 9 a.m.-5 p.m. all days. Earl Warren Showgrounds Exhibit Building, Highway 101 and Los Positas Rd, Santa Barbara. 805/687-0766. General $10, Seniors and students w/I.D. $8, Kids under 12 free.

Mar. 29 Sat.
CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA 28th Annual Congress. Lectures and banquet. Info: 805/969-4536 or www.cymbidium.org.

Mar. 29 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Water Gardening. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Citrus Varieties and Care 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Apr. 1 Tues.
★FLOWER ARRANGING SDFA class with Carvill Veech. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Prepare for the Coronado Flower Show. Advanced reservations required. See our ad for details.

Apr. 1-15 Tues.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Dry-Climate Gardening Series. 10 a.m-12 p.m. Garden designer Elizabeth Ralston shares her secrets for using cacti, succulents, and other dry-climate plants to add lush beauty to the home garden. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Adults only. Registration: 626/405-2128.

Members, $60, non-members $75.

Apr. 3 Thurs.
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Class "Dazzling Dragonflies and Damselflies of Southern California." Class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost includes field trip on Apr. 5, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. $59 members, $69 non-members. 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Apr. 4 Fri.-23 Wed.
BALBOA PARK BOTANICAL BUILDING Easter Lily Display. 300 Easter lilies amongst the 2,100 permanent tropical plants, carnivorous plant bog, and "touch and smell" garden. Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Closed Thursday and City holidays.) Free.

Apr. 5 Sat.
★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY** will be open. See Mar. 1 for details.

Apr. 5 Sat.
MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE 7th Annual Gardeners' Market Plant Sale. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the west Oceanside Wal-Mart store, 2100 Vista Way at the Jefferson exit. This is a fundraiser for MiraCosta College student scholarships. 760/643-0177.

Apr. 5 Sat.
SAN DIEGO SPRING HOME GARDENING SEMINAR Select from 40 classes, sponsored by Master Gardener Association. Marina Village Conference Center. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Registration deadline March 25.** $33.00 for 4 seminars. Call 858/694-2860 or www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

Apr. 5 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Spring & Summer Lawn Care. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Houseplants: How to Keep Them Alive. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Apr. 5-6 Sat.-Sun.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY Cutting Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free.

Apr. 5-6 Sat.-Sun.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Children's Garden Opening Festival, "Touch of Wonder." 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or www.qbgardens.org.

Apr. 7 Mon.
CGCI FLORAL DESIGN FORUM 2002-2003 Akiko Bourland, President of the Ohara School of Ikebana, SD Chapter. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 12:30-3:00 p.m. $8. 760/749-9608.

Apr. 8 Tues.
★**BAMBOO CONSTRUCTION** SDFA class with Kathy Walsh. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. $25. Advanced reservations required. See our ad for details.

Apr. 10 Thurs.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Talk & Plant Sale 2:30 p.m. "Bromeliads of Thailand." with Pam Koide, owner of the Bird Rock Tropicals nursery in Carlsbad. Plant sale follows. Friends's Hall, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. Free.

WANTED
PEOPLE TO BE ON A COMMITTEE OF VOLUNTEERS TO SOLICIT ADVERTISING FOR *CALIFORNIA GARDEN*—CALL KAY AT 619-222-5207 OR EMAIL kay@cts.com

Apr. 11-12 Fri.-Sat.
POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB 24th Standard Flower Show "Buds, Books and Butterflies." Masonic Lodge, 1711 Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach. Fri. 2-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Plant and craft sale 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days and Master Gardeners. Free.

Apr. 12 Sat.
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB California Nativescapes Botanical Garden Guided Tour at San Diego Wild Animal Park. Meet at Nativescapes Garden entrance at 10:00 a.m. 858/487-2629. Free with admission.

Apr. 12 Sat.
POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB 26th Annual Flower Show "That's Entertainment." Old Poway Park 9 a.m-2 p.m. Designers and public welcome. 858/672-6225 or 760/788-1393. Free.

Apr. 12 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Tomatoes. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Garden Railroading Part 2 with Tom Rey, President of the SDGRS 9:30 at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Apr. 12 Sat.
WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN Saturday Seminar "Fairytale Landscape, Cottage Gardens San Diego Style" Instructor Chris Wotruba of Perennial Gardens. 9:30 a.m. 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon. www.thegarden.org or 619/670-2291. Free.

Apr. 12-13 Sat.-Sun.
CARLSBAD FLOWER FIELDS 3rd Annual Orchid Festival. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Hundreds of beautiful and exotic blooming orchids and acres of colorful ranunculus fields. General admission $7 adults, $6 seniors, and $4 children 3-10 yrs.

Apr. 12-13 Sat.-Sun.
FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB 72nd Annual Standard Flower Show "Arts & Flowers" Fallbrook

Community Center, 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook. Sat. 2-6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Entries welcome. 760/728-6373. Free.

Apr. 12-13 Sat.-Sun.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Herb Festival and Plant Sale. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or www.qbgardens.org.

Apr. 14 Mon.

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Monthly meeting featuring author Karen Dardick who recently published *Estate Gardens of California*. 6:30 p.m. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar. Free.

Apr. 15 Tues.

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING "An Edible Jungle in San Diego" with Tricia Renner, owner of Seasons in the Garden. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101, 7 p.m. Free. Catered dinner precedes the meeting at 6 p.m. **Reservations required by April 10th** for dinner. $11 members, $15 non-members. 619/232-5762.

Apr. 15, 22, and 29th Tues.

★THREE-SESSION AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY FLOWER ARRANGING SDFA class. Prepare for Art Alive at the San Diego Museum of Art. $45 members, $50 non-members. Advanced reservations required. See our ad for details.

Apr. 18 Fri.

PLANT DAY AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO Special offerings for garden enthusiasts including self-guided plant tours, a tour of the Zoo's off-exhibit orchid house and seasonal garden activities. Ask for schedule at entrance. Tours free with general admission.

Apr. 19 Sat.

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY will be open. See Mar. 1 for details.

Apr. 19 Sat.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Bamboo Sale. 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. For information call 760/436-3036 or visit www.qbgardens.org.

Apr. 19 Sat.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Plant Propagation I - Cuttings & Seeds. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Tomatoes, Intro to Heirloom Varieties with Steve Goto of Goto Nursery. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Apr. 19-20 Sat.-Sun.

EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY Annual Show and Sale. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101.

Apr. 19-20 Sat.-Sun.

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN Annual Wildflower Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Indoor display of hundreds of species of wildflowers. 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. 909/625-8767 ext. 251. Free. Suggested donations are $2 individual and $5 for families.

Apr. 21 Mon.

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY. Monthly meeting about "Preregistration for the Show with Patty Ragan." 10 a.m. You bring lunch: coffee, tea, and desserts furnished by the club. Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista. 760/433-4641. Free.

Apr. 21 Mon.

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN Senior Day. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. An exclusive opportunity for seniors to enjoy the springtime beauty of the Garden. Docent-led wildflower walks, nature activities, and the Spring Wildflower Show. Wildflower Tram Tours available for mobility limitations. 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. 909/625-8767 ext. 251. Free. Group reservations requested.

Apr. 25 Fri.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Field Botany: The Herb Garden with Jim Folsom, Director of the Botanical Gardens. 9 a.m-12 p.m. New series of classes takes an in-depth look at the botanical collections of The Huntington. Adults only. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. To register, call 626/405-2128. Members $25, non-members $30.

Apr. 26 Sat.

2nd ANNUAL POINT LOMA GARDEN WALK at Plumosa Park, corner of Chatsworth and Plumosa Drive. Hosted by The Dana Unit of Children's Hospital Auxiliary. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tickets available at some nurseries or by calling 619/225-8647. $15 in advance or $17 day of event.

Apr. 26 Sat.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Native American Day. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or www.qbgardens.org.

Apr. 26 Sat.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Class "Backyard Habitat Gardening." Class 9-11 a.m., field trip noon-4 p.m. $20 members, $25 non-members. 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Apr. 26 Sat.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Family program "Birds, Art, and Music." 10 a.m.-noon.Create bird ornaments, taste bird food, and listen to bird sounds. $17 members, $22 non-members. 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Apr. 26 Sat.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Cymbidium Repotting. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Hummingbird and Butterfly Gardening, How to Attract Them 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Apr. 26-27 Sat.-Sun.

CORONADO FLOWER SHOW 77th Annual Flower Show "Expressions of Nature" in Spreckles Park. Sat. 1-5:30 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m.-4 p.m. 619/435-8976. $3 adults, children and CFA members free.

Apr. 26-27 Sat.-Sun.
SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB 39th Annual Spring Show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Bonsai trees, pots, accessories, and plants for sale. Free.

Apr. 26-27 Sat.-Sun.
SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY 75th Annual Show, "2002 The Year of the Rose, Our Diamond Jubilee." Balboa Park Club Building, Balboa Park. Sat. 1-5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Includes educational speakers and consulting rosarians. $2.50. 619/463-6977.

Apr. 30-May 14 Weds.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Gardening Series: Summer Perennials. 3-5 p.m. Join Brian Sullivan of Descanso Gardens for a three week class about design and planting strategies for summer perennials. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Adults only. Registration: 626/405-2128. Members, $60, non-members $75.

BUDS 'n BLOOMS WAS CANCELLED THIS YEAR DUE TO BUDGET CUTS.

May 3 Sat.
CLAIREMONT GARDEN TOUR Check www.clairemont-tc.net or call 858/831-9555 for information.

May 3 Sat.
PACIFIC GROVE HERITAGE SOCIETY 3rd Annual "Secret Gardens of Pacific Grove" garden tour. 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Visit 8-10 beautiful, private gardens. Heritage Society members $12 and non-members $15. Contact Bobbie Hall at 831/375-7641.

May 3-4 Sat.-Sun.
SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY SHOW Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free.

May 3-4 Sat.-Sun.
THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Rose Festival. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thousands of roses at their peak, guided tour, informal talks about rose care and culture. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. Free with general admission.

BALBOA PARK

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Open Tues. thru Sun. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Docent tours with reservations. Fee. 619/232-2721.

OFFSHOOT TOURS Ranger guided. Various topics. Saturdays 10:00 a.m. Meet at Visitors Center in Plaza de Panama. 619/235-1121. Free.

INTERPRETIVE WALKS Ranger guided. History oriented topics. Meet at Visitors Center in Plaza de Panama. Tuesdays and Sundays at 1:00 p.m. Free.

ONGOING EVENTS

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Canyoneer Walks. Sat-Sun. Sept-June. 619/232-3821 ext 203 or www.sdnhm.org for locations, times and directions. Free.

SAN DIEGO ZOO ORCHID ODYSSEY. Third Friday of every month. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., showcasing orchids from Papua New Guinea, Central and South America, Africa, Thailand, Australia, China, and Vietnam. Free with Zoo admission.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Tours & Events. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or (www.qbgardens.com). General Admission.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE Walks. Poway. Sat. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. 858/679-5469.

WALKABOUT INTERNATIONAL Local Guided Walks. Newsletter. 619/231-SHOE. Free.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE Water Conservation Garden Landscape Seminar on 2nd Saturday of each month. 9:30 a.m. Docent tours Sat. 10:30 a.m. and Sun. 1:30 p.m. 619/660-0614. Free.

THE HUNTINGTON is open Tuesday through Friday noon to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed Monday and most holidays. $10 adults, $8.50 seniors, $7 students (12-18), under 12 and members free. Group rate (10+) $8. First Thursday of each month free to all visitors. 626/405-2100 or www.huntington.org.

GARDENING CLASSES

BETTY NEWTON
7-WEEK COURSE

Landscaping: Trees, Shrubs and Flowers. Covering palms, small trees, pool planting, vines, avocado-citrus care and varieties, edibles, perennials, dealing with fungus, fence and wall ideas, tropicals and subtropicals.

Beginning April 24 Thurs. A.M.
Foothills Adult Center. 8:50 a.m.-Noon.
Room 12. 1550 Melody Lane, El Cajon.
619/401/4122. $24.

JOYCE GEMMELL
6-WEEK COURSE

Summer Vegetable Gardening. Covers the six most popular summer vegetables, basic soil preparation, fertilization, irrigation, and insect and disease control.

Beginning April 22 Tues. A.M.
Foothills Adult Center. 9 a.m.-Noon.
Room 12. 1550 Melody Lane, El Cajon.
619/401/4122. $15.

Deadline for submission to **HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR** for MAY-JUNE issue is MARCH 15. **SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations.

Gleanings . . .

gathered by barbara jones

AVOCADOS . . .
Wonder why your avocado, even though it appears not to be over ripe, is black inside? It's chill damage. This usually happens early in the season because the fruit contains less oil.

Usually avocados in the market are sold while still firm and not ripe. If you want to use one immediately it can be microwaved. This does not really ripen it, just softens it. You can ripen an avocado in two or three days by placing it in a paper bag in a warm place with a ripe banana or apple. Kay Harry says she uses just a piece of apple or some peel.

TUTEUR . . .
One of the latest fads for the garden is growing flowering vines or beans on a tuteur. (We used to call them tepees and they were not so fancy.) Tuteurs have four legs and are about six feet tall. They are available in finished or unfinished wood, wrought iron, or made of natural branches lashed together. Some are quite elaborate. The only requirement is that there are some cross pieces up the sides to help support the vine. The traditional bean tepee is not as large and is just three or four bamboo poles wired or lashed together at the top. Bean tepees are often discarded with the plant at the end of the season. A tuteur has a bigger base, 18 inches to several feet on a side, and it is supposed to be an attractive addition to the garden without the plant (in the off season).

PLANT MARKERS . . .
It is the season to plant. One of the confusing things about one's garden is remembering what was planted where. Hence the marker. There are all kinds of clever (and pricey) items to use to identify the plant. Unfortunately, many of the markers become illegible after a time. Millie Howe has solved the problem. She uses five-inch-long pieces of old, light-colored venetian blinds. She tapers the end to a point to stick them easily into the soil. The identifying name is written with a #2 pencil. She declares that they last and the name remains readable forever. They are attractive, too.

GREY WATER . . .
Water, or the lack of it, is becoming a big problem in much of the United States. Many areas have had prolonged drought. Grey water can be used for plants, particularly from the bath and shower. It is expensive to replumb to direct this water into the garden and in some areas it is against the law. If water becomes rationed and garden watering is heavily fined, people will find ways to save their favorite tree or shrub or rose. Bath water can be dipped out and carried into the garden and dumped into ditches around the plants. Water can be saved from a shower if the person stands with a bucket between the feet. This suggestion came from Santa Fe, New Mexico.

I lived in San Diego in the 20s before we had imported water. (Less than 20% of our water is local.) Water ran for a short time at night. It was against the law to water gardens or lawns. My mother kept all of her prize roses alive with bath water dipped by the pan-full from the tub and carried into the yard. It's not easy to live with water rationing. As an adult I lived in both Tokyo, Japan and Alexandria, Virginia when water was rationed — only turned on for an hour in the morning and an hour at night. Lawns died but in both instances established trees lost leaves but survived. There was rain.

We are in drought here and our supply of water from the Colorado River is being cut. It's time we stopped growing so many water-using plants and change from our acres of lawn to low-water-use ground covers and shrubs and trees. Most of the current gardens will quickly turn into ugly, barren ground if the water is turned off.

ARBOR DAY . . .
In the USA on Arbor Day we plant trees. The first arbor day was celebrated in Nebraska in 1872. Although a forested state, most of the trees had been removed for farms. This was an effort to replace some trees. By 1894 it was celebrated nationally. National Arbor day is April 25th. Every state has its own day based on the best time to plant trees in that area — California Arbor Day is March 7th. Schools often have special planting ceremonies on campus. It is a good way to emphasize the importance of vegetation, especially trees.

A Gardening Adventure

SITE OF CHRISTMASES PAST BECOMES THE FUTURE

BY CYNTHIA PARDOE

IT HAS BEEN ABOUT five years or more, since I hauled Christmas tree mulch from the seasonal shredding site in northern El Cajon's industrial area. Yes indeed, so many wonderful family memories were made here as we spent time gathering, pitchforking, and hauling away the aromatic Christmas tree mulch. There was such a grand mountain of pleasurably scented pine, fir, and spruce chippings and mulch to haul back home. I will forever miss this annual New Year tradition of obtaining the fragrant dressings for my garden. Oh, how my garden benefited greatly from those many, annual layers of Christmas-past castoffs!

The City of El Cajon discontinued the use of that very convenient site for this purpose. There appeared to be a more centralized county collection and chipping operation elsewhere, with perhaps a fee for mulch. It was over; or was it? I would drive by the site periodically, right after the holidays, in hopes that the recycling Christmas tree site would come back. But no, no more mountains of aromatic chippings around to be hauled back home. No more searching for the perfect mountain to sink the pitchfork into, the perfect moisture concentration for maximum forest aroma; fling the pitchfork fast, and yet save up enough energy for multiple trips, before the mountain begins decomposing and forms dry, dusty fungus spores to agitate the lungs. Again, nothing this year, just new fill dirt piles would appear, plopped by sporadic dump trucks.

Then the heavy earth-moving machinery came, along with the survey sticks with their orange plastic pennants. More dirt was added around here and there, evolving into large pads of dirt, laid out all around this formerly vacant, large industrial lot. Oh, brother, I thought, another concrete tilt-up industrial park is on its way, in the valley that was first settled over 100 years ago as a fine agricultural area. Later, model airplane hobbyists used this large corner lot. They would fly their remote control aircraft, and share stories with one another. Yes, we lost our extended family tradition, and contact with other yearly faithful harvesters that we made good conversation with. From golden poppy fields to chaparral to farmland to abandoned land to Christmas tree mulch site, to industrial buildings.

I lament the passing of an era. As I miserably contemplated all this loss of past happiness, I realized what fate this site was undergoing now. I just could not go near the intersection of Vernon Way and Johnson ever again. My heavy grieving heart would avoid this

intersection forever more, I resolved.

Several years have passed now, since I thought about that site. My garden has never been the same. The Christmas magic has long since broken down, and the soil is telling me how much it misses the family tradition. Lack of water and rainfall has also taken a toll on the garden. My gardening ways changed, and I found myself being pulled into a new direction, a direction of *Pelargonium* preservation. More and more drought-tolerant plants seem to be surviving under these water-thrifty times. The plant, *Pelargonium*, dominated the garden, making it center stage throughout the acreage. I now grow copious quantities of Regal (Martha Washington) varieties, keeping track, propagating, and preserving more than six hundred named varieties.

In early spring, I received a call from my fellow Regal Preservationist friend, Brenda Archer. "Cynthia," she said, "I was driving down Vernon Way, and out of the corner of my eye, there seem to be, maybe, some Regals over there in the landscape. We should go over and check this out together this weekend. That way, no one will be around to bug us. Also, maybe we can take some pictures without cars distracting our photographic compositions." Hmmm, I thought, I wonder if that was the former Christmas tree recycling site she was talking about? Brenda and I always made time in our busy lives to keep tabs on any known Regal plantings. We are, what one would say, the Regal Preservation Patrollers.

Our mission is to seek out any Regal varieties that may be threatened with scarcity or extinction. Large nurseries tend not to grow these unique varieties anymore, due to some genetic inconveniences on the part of the plant. They just grow too tall, from cutting, to bloom, to fit nicely in the hauling trucks. Short and compact Regals are the preference for wholesale nursery growers. Not to mention, several of these nurseries have been unable to continue leasing their operational acreage; landowners have been tempted by more profitable development. Fewer and fewer nurseries carry them, and it is up to the Regal Preservationist to keep these wonderful cultivars growing for the future generations so that future *Pelargonium* lovers will be able to enjoy these many other regal types. So we grow them. Very few of us are left, and we Regal Preservationists trade our plants amongst ourselves, in order to provide backups of existing varieties with their proper names, of course, intact. We can always call upon each other if we lose one, due to changes in our lives, weather-related problems, or the plant's untimely, unknown death. Besides these duties, our Regal Preservation goals keep us checking out Regal planting sites. With this high calling in my life, and for the interest of our Regal Preservation work, I forced myself to see what was growing at the old Christmas tree mulch recycling site on the other side of the valley.

Well, to my surprise, I literally had to grab hold of my heart and hold it down before it jumped out of my chest. Landscaped throughout this half-block industrial site were 268 Regals. We had to count them!!! All were blooming up in an elegant, visual bouquet of profuse colors! One Regal planting after the other, row after row after row revealed massive planting of exotic blooming Regals. Looking at all the varieties, I realized that these plantings were very special.

In fact, so special, that whoever obtained them for this landscape job would have had to get them from me first, somehow, and not too long ago. Maybe it was at our local Exotic or Geranium Show and Sale. Most of these varieties are rare, and are not being grown in nurseries. So, I thought, who has done this? There is a local grower in El Cajon, off old Highway 80, Rosa and Rudy, family growers of Four Season Nursery. Every year, the entire family comes to purchase my new arrivals. It had become their family tradition to come and see the San Diego Geranium Show and Sale. Maybe, Rosa and Rudy Guevara are doing so fabulously growing these plants, that this landscape architect had purchased the plants from them? I say this because only a grower could have gotten these plants into a five-gallon plant this soon after I released these exotic cultivars to the public. As I looked even more closely at the plants, I identified some of them as the newest additions to the Regal Preservation Project. These had come all the way from Rome. My good friend, Riccardo Gallucci, fellow Regal Preservationist in Italy, sent his hybrids and Italian cultivars to us here in San Diego a few years past. I made them available a year or two ago to the public. And now, this year, here on the other side of El Cajon, they came to be. Those very plants that I worked so hard to keep preserving: *Pelargonium domesticum*, alias Regal, better known as Martha Washingtons, grow here now at this Center Pointe Industrial Park.

That day I had tears for both of my passions, what I lost and what I gained here.

Who would ever have known that the place where my pitchfork lifted up that aromatic pine mulch, year after year, once upon a memory, would finally become a Regal preservation site for this moment in time that I call today? I embrace this with the greatest of joy.

Of course, before writing this Regal Story, I had to drive over last week to see how these lovely Regals had weathered during these El Cajon hot summer days. They were magnificent! Lush with speratic blooms. Not bad for this time of year. The landscape maintenance people are trimming them, and they are taking on a hedge-like appearance. Next spring, I am looking forward to seeing this flowing line of Regal drama in bloom! It should indeed be a Regal Preservationist's picture perfect moment. □

Cynthia Pardoe is a professional artist who draws artistic inspiration from her 4½-acre garden. A portion of the land has been set aside for the International Regal Preservation Project, established in 2001. This project was designed out of pure love for Pelargonium domesticum, and concern that many older varieties were becoming difficult and sometimes impossible to find. The desire to collect and preserve all available varieties of regal Pelargoniums became an urgent necessity as world-wide regal collectors realized that many old garden favorites had disappeared.

Photos at Center Pointe Industrial Park by the author.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

3642 Enterprise Street
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 224-8271

8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

FREE GARDEN CLASSES
9:00 A.M. SATURDAY MORNINGS

HAUNTING SCENTS OF PARADISE- THE UNFORGETTABLE MICHELIAS

BY FREDRIK LILJEBLAD

IF I WERE EXILED to a barren island and allowed to take only one fragrant plant with me, it would be my *Michelia alba*. With difficulty—perhaps even a tear or two—I'd say good-bye to my collection of gardenias, and I'd sigh as I took a parting sniff of my Chinese jasmine (*Jasminum polyanthum*), whose trusses of pinkish white flowers permeate every inch of my garden and house with their heady scent each February and March. But my precious *Michelia alba*, now a 12-foot tall tree, is the one fragrant plant I could never part from.

Michelias are a family of sub-tropical bushes or small trees related to magnolias that produce relatively small but powerfully fragrant flowers. The unique perfume, pungent and fruity, has been likened it to a range of fruits: bananas, pears, apples—even mangoes! The base for "the world's most expensive perfume," Joy, is the essential oil extracted from *Michelia alba*, commonly known as the "white jade magnolia" or "white champaca"—more on this confusing terminology later.

My own first encounter with *Michelia alba* was during Chinese New Year in Taipei in the early 1980s. A Taiwanese friend and his family took me to the Lung Ching Temple in the oldest part of the city on New Year's Day. There we bought teardrop-shaped, waxy-looking ivory flowers with the most incredible perfume I'd ever smelled. Each had a small thread looped through the short stem for hanging on wire racks next to the altar. My friend explained that the scent was so wonderful, it would "rise up to Heaven and get the gods' attention" as we asked them for good fortune in the coming year.

Later, when I lived in Thailand, I'd get up at dawn for my morning walks and buy several bags of *Michelia alba* buds ("chom-pii" in Thai) from the flower garland sellers outside the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok. When I got back home, I'd float them in bowls so the scent permeated every room in the house. In Java, where *M. alba* is known as "cempaka putih," the flowers are ritually offered at temple ceremonies to mark holidays, births, or deaths.

After moving to San Diego about ten years ago, I found myself missing the scent of michelia flowers. As a surrogate, I bought a related variety, *M. figo* (a k a *M. falcata*), commonly called "banana shrub," on a visit to Tropicworld. As lovely as the fruity scent was while it floated through the house on the warm breezes of March or April, it couldn't replace the almost painfully intense and complex perfume of *Michelia alba*.

Michelia alba
Magnoliaceae
©G. D. Carr

On my trips to an Asian supermarket in Kearny Mesa, I would sigh over the $100-plus specimens of *M. alba*, the costliest of all michelias, on display in the nursery area. Finally, I ran across a specimen at Walter Andersen's. It was mixed in with a group of *M. champaca* (less expensive than *M. alba*), and had been accidentally priced the same as those. When I pointed this out, they insisted on selling it to me as marked (this isn't the only reason Andersen's is my favorite nursery, but it didn't hurt). What a thrill! Today that same tree, now over 12 feet tall and bearing more than 300 flowers each year, grows in an outdoor seating area in my garden where I can enjoy the heady fragrance over morning coffee or during an after-dinner chat with friends.

There are quite a few members of the michelia family, but in American nurseries we commonly find only four, two somewhat hardy varieties: *M. doltsopa* and *M. figo*; and two rather tender ones, *M. champaca*, and *M. alba*.

All michelias have handsome foliage—sturdy, somewhat waxy, pointed leaves that vary from a light grass green to a medium green. In the hardier varieties, the leaves are held fairly stiffly in the manner of their magnolia "cousins." In the tender ones, the leaves are larger, resembling those of avocados in shape and growth habit, but have far more substance and a lighter, fresher color. They are also very fragrant when crushed, reminiscent of lemon verbena. The flowers of michelias vary slightly in color, and tend to be smallish, long and pointed. In form, they bear a slight resemblance to *Magnolia stellata* when open, but with a waxy, substantial texture.

M. doltsopa, which comes from the foothills of the Himalayas, becomes a huge tree in its native habitat. Even in California, it's been known to surpass 40 feet. We in San Diego have a specimen at the zoo, and there is also one at the Huntington. *M. doltsopa's* flowers are fairly large but are probably the least fragrant of all the michelias. It is a beautiful tree nonetheless.

Michelia figo, the banana shrub, can grow to a 15-foot tree, but is usually below 8 feet. Of all the michelias, it has the handsomest branch structure and lends itself to "oriental" effects. The heaviest bloom tends to come in March–April, but some flowers appear throughout the warmer months. The 1–2-inch flowers start as fuzzy, tobacco brown buds, and are a pale banana yellow with knife blade-thin maroon borders on the petal edges. The plant is appropriately named—the blooms are strongly redolent of banana with a slight apple overtone. There is a U.S. hybrid, *M. figo* 'Portwine,' whose slightly smaller flowers are entirely maroon.

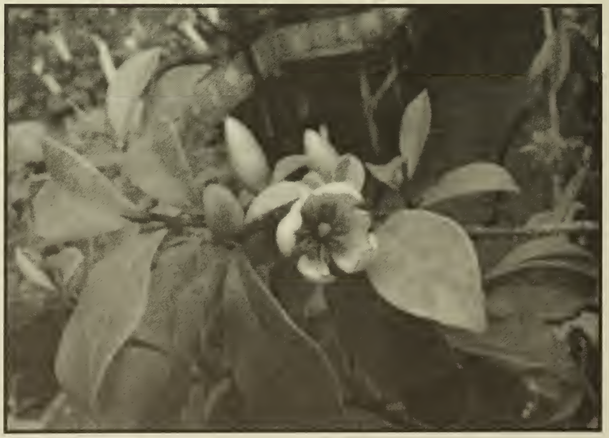
Of the two rather tender michelias in U.S. commerce, *M. champaca*, and *M. alba*, *M. champaca* is slightly less tender and grows slightly taller than *M. alba*. It has saffron to pale orange blossoms that are somewhat less fragrant than *M. alba*, but quite fragrant nonetheless.

As I've mentioned, *M. alba* is the most powerfully fragrant of all the michelias, with a scent that reverses the proportion of banana to apple found in *M. figo*, and adds an indefinable "tropical" note as well. It is a handsome tree, somewhat less "architectural" than *M. figo*, but making up for it in size, profusion of bloom, and length of bloom season. The approximately two-inch long flower buds need some warmth to mature and open, but in practical terms for coastal/coastal strip San Diego gardeners, this means a bloom season that lasts from late March through at least early November or sometimes January, with slightly less production during the May grey/June gloom. Buds, once formed, persist until ready to open, and bud drop is rare.

Despite covering a wide swathe of sub-tropical and tropical Asia, michelias are quite uniform—with the exception of cold tolerance—in their cultural requirements. Some, however, are more unyielding than others. The fact that michelias are related to magnolias is an indicator of their nature: these are surface-rooted, acid-loving, second-story plants that want warmth and a lot of light, but limited direct sun.

Michelia's light requirements are somewhat complex: as much as they like lots of light and warmth, full sun—even at the coast—dries out their leaves and turns them an unpleasant yellowish green. The ideal situation is direct morning sun followed by *light* dappled shade under high trees. This can translate into any one or a combination of these scenarios: light all-day shade; full sun until late morning with part shade the remainder of the day inland; full sun until early afternoon, then part-shade the rest of the day near the coast. Strong afternoon sun in summer—even at the coast, is not a good situation for michelias.

Michelias also dislike windy locations. Although my garden is near-coastal, it's not at the coast, so the daily



Michelia figo

prevailing ocean breeze begins about 2:00 p.m. Initially, it took some experimentation on my part to find the proper spot. Until I did, my *M. alba* was getting rather leathery, netted leaves from the combination of sun and wind. When I moved it under the high, overhanging branches of a white chinese mulberry, it perked up enormously. It now gets light all day but little direct sun, and the mulberry also helps baffle the daily ocean breezes—with additional help from my house and a large, vine-covered trellis.

Michelia champaca

Like magnolias and camellias, michelias have a shallow root system with lots of fine brittle roots. This means that michelias, except perhaps *M. doltsopa*, are quite amenable to container culture and, in fact, dislike root disturbance as there's some inevitable damage to the brittle roots. At least until you've found the perfect location, I favor keeping michelias in containers since it enables you to move them about the garden. The potting mix I personally like is leaf mold, osmunda fiber (orchid mix is OK), perlite, azalea/camellia-type potting soil, composted pine needles, and horticultural coconut coir (coir poses far less danger from overwatering than water-retentive peat moss).

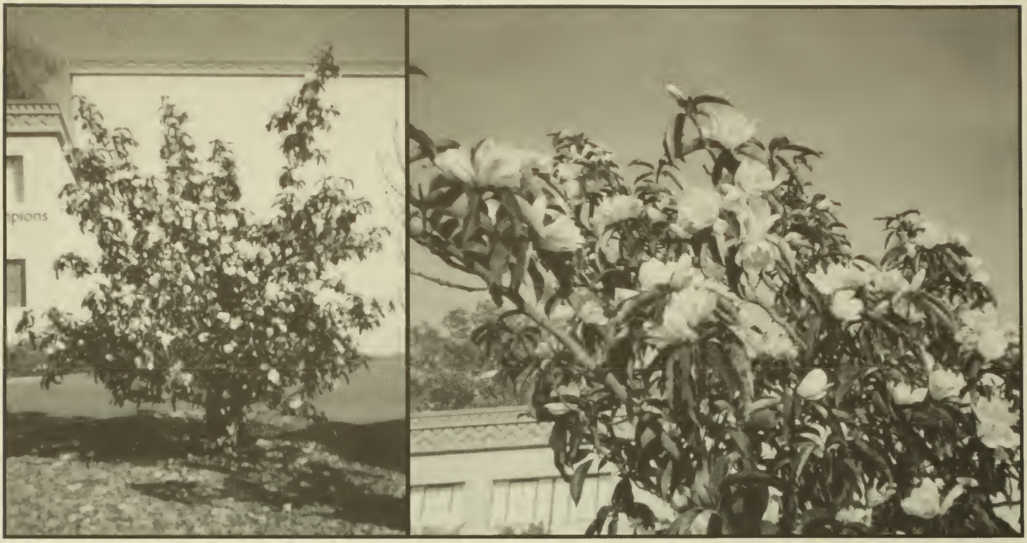
Mulch michelias with leaf mold mixed with their own dropped leaves (michelias shed some leaves all year, but especially in the spring when the new leaves emerge). In watering terms, you can't go wrong if you mimic camellia culture, keeping in mind that michelias' foliage is not as stiff and transpiration resistant. I personally water somewhat lavishly since the above mix drains so well, but if in doubt, root rot is a greater danger—especially during the winter months and the May grey/June gloom periods. On the other hand, all michelias, particularly *M. alba* and *M. champaca*, like even more humidity than camellias. Spray or mist the foliage in early morning, and several times a day during a Santa Ana.

Also, because our water here has so much mineral salts, I use drip irrigation for 12 hours once a month to leach out all the salts. Without leaching, you run the risk of some marginal leaf burn.

Unlike camellias, michelias are greedy feeders. I give mine a varied diet: the basis is usually Safer brand liquid plant food for azaleas, rhododendrons, and camellias, but MiracleGro for acid-loving plants works almost as well *if* you leach. I start in the spring with Peter's 20-20-20. From May to October, I alternate acid-loving plant food with Superbloom to encourage flower production. Because our local water is so alkaline, I also give a dose of Safer's IronPlus 5% about four to six times a year, usually right after leaching. If the leaves start to look a yellowish green (they're never much darker than a light grass or apple green anyway), I may give a 1/2-strength foliar feeding of iron between regular doses. I usually don't fertilize from late October/early November until the end of February, just in case we actually do approach a freeze.

You will notice that michelia buds usually form among the leaves rather than at the tips of the branches. Especially as they get ready to open, they become very brittle and snap off easily, so be careful when touching the tree. Unlike camellias, michelias seldom drop buds unless the plants are very stressed. If underfed, however, bud production will decrease considerably. Buds on *M. champaca* and *M. alba* will often just sit there waiting for warmer weather, so don't be alarmed. Michelias can hold on to their unopened buds for a *long* time before they open. Incidentally, if you're in a dry area, try to mist the air frequently during the hottest part of the day. Michelias like warmth, but they also like some humidity.

Except for *M. figo*, most michelias tend to produce very vertical growth. If you're buying a *M. alba* or *M. champaca*, try to choose one that displays at least some tendency to produce horizontal growth. Pruning is not the answer, but rigorous tip-pinching of the uppermost leaves will force side growth. One problem many michelia owners encounter is distinguishing the leaf buds from the flower buds in the early stages. There's no substitute for carefully observing your plant, but here are some things to watch for: flower buds maintain their bullet-like shape; leaf buds, past a certain point, develop pointy "tails" reminiscent of green beans, but with a slight twist to them. A bud at the very end of a branch



Michelia doltsopa, north of Municipal Gymnaseum

tends to be a leaf bud, as most flower buds emerge from existing leaf axils.

Despite all the above, michelias are not difficult to grow here, they just require an understanding of their needs. Given that, they will reward you with that haunting scent for most of each year.

Some good local sources for *M. alba/M. champaca* are Walter Andersen's, Pacific Tree Farms, and Mission Hills Nursery. □

Fredrik Liljeblad has been a professional writer for over twenty years. He is the author of numerous textbooks on language learning and cookery, as well as a producer of educational videos. He has gardened in climates as diverse as those of Sweden, England, Thailand, and Japan.

Photo Credit:

page 44, *Michelia alba*, copyright Gerald Carr, PhD, www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr/default.htm

page 45, *Michelia figo*, by Michael Moody. email: michael.moody@yahoo.com

or website: http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu/

26th Annual Standard Flower Show
Poway Valley Garden Club
That's Entertainment
April 12, 2003 9a.m. to 2p.m.
Free
Old Poway Park, Poway
Designers and public welcome.
Judging will be April 11 at 10 a.m.
Design entry deadline April 4
Entries accepted April 10 5-8p.m., April 11 7-9 p.m.
Information: 858-672-6225 or 760-788-1393

Come and See What's Growing On !
Pascua Farms
& Nursery
2464 Willow Glen Dr. El Cajon, CA 92019
Phone #=(619) 504-2017 or (619) 579-8477
E-mail=allenj.k@sbcglobal.net
We offer a wide variety of Specialty Plants, Fresh Fruits, Herbs, and Veggies.
Fresh and Dried Floral Material as well. All picked to order and Pesticide free.
Hours may vary, feel free to call for an appointment.
We are located between Cottonwood and Singing Hills
just east of Hillsdale Rd. in Rancho San Diego.

15% Discount for all SDFA members

Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND *CALIFORNIA GARDEN* STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Helen LaGamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER only when soil is dry when watering from the top.

TO KEEP all areas clear of plant clutter. Use only clean sterile equipment. Have the area well ventilated.

TO PROVIDE 12 to 14 hours of indirect lighting daily.

TO PROTECT plants from any sudden change in temperature—maintain 65-75°F.

TO POT UP babies in 2½-inch pots using a light, porous, sterile soil with good drainage.

TO PRACTICE preventive measures against insects and disease—have clean hands and clothing.

BEGONIAS

Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PUT down tubers to sprout.

TO CLEAN all pots and plantings of dead wood, leaves, and old debris.

TO PROTECT roots with a mulch.

TO START feeding; give ¼ strength of any good all-purpose plant food if feeding once a week, ½ strength if twice a month; full strength if once a month.

TO CONTROL disease and pests by spray and bait.

TO KEEP plants moist, but not wet.

TO START new plants from leaves, cuttings, or seeds.

BONSAI

San Diego Bonsai Club

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH watering program according to the rains.

TO GRAFT deciduous plants.

TO REPOT plants; shape to conform to the container.

TO REMEMBER deciduous flowering plants need repotting every year, except quince. Conifers may go three to five years without repotting.

TO ADD small amounts of chelated iron or acidifying preparation to correct alkaline (salt) buildup.

TO WATCH for aphids and other pests.

TO WAIT until April to feed. Use a high nitrogen fertilizer for foliage growth; high phosphorus type to set flowers and fruit.

TO USE ¼-strength fertilizer spread several weeks apart, rather than using full strength only once. Measure accurately. Too much fertilizer can burn roots and cause leaf damage.

BROMELIADS

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CHECK plants for scale especially during spring when scale is most likely to appear.

TO TREAT plants with scale by dipping or spraying them thoroughly with a solution of Cygon 2E according to directions on the label. Drain excess solution from plant.

TO KEEP plants clean. Cut spent blooms and dead leaves.

TO REPOT your favorite plants in new potting media. This helps them to develop a healthier growth.

TO ALWAYS provide good drainage and never allow the soil to become soggy.

TO FERTILIZE only during the warm months, once a month, preferring a fertilizer high in acid. Use ½ the recommended strength on the label.

CACTI AND SUCCULENTS

Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE plants for spring growth by checking soil and pot condition—transplant if needed. Soil mix should be light and water should flow through freely.

TO FERTILIZE your plants regularly.

TO START acclimating the protected plants to outdoor conditions once again, after danger of frost is gone.

TO PROTECT sensitive plants from the rain and sun; bright sun can burn indoor plants.

TO KEEP newly purchased plants separated from your collection until they show signs of good growth without any pests or disease; treat any pest promptly; watch for snails, also. A wet winter might bring you rodents; mice and rabbits are cute, but no cacti are safe from their nibbles. Protect your plants.

CALIFORNIA NATIVES

Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENJOY the early blooms in your yard and in the back country. There will be *Ceanothus* in bloom all over the county. It might be a little early for the desert wildflowers, but it is good to call and check as bloom time varies from year to year.

TO PUT out snail bait in the moist areas where you see their trails. Place the bait where pets and children can't get into it.

TO NOTICE poorly drained areas in your garden and plant water loving natives there. Yellow and red monkey flowers, (*Mimulus guttatus* and *M. cardinalis*) and yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*) are examples of water loving native perennials.

TO PLAN for your fall planting. Notice areas that need more plants or different plants. Also note areas where plants seem to die. Check the drainage. If necessary, plant on mounds.

CAMELLIAS

Jay Vermilya

NOW IS THE TIME

TO KEEP picking up spent blooms and petals to prevent petal blight.

TO SHAPE your plants to your taste: cut back tips to encourage bushiness; or, alternatively, remove branches/branchlets for a more open plant (permitting air circulation and creating more room for next year's buds to open fully).

TO CONTINUE to feed iron and 0-10-10/2-10-10 fertilizer for enhanced blooms.

TO LOOK for aphids and loopers on new tender foliage. Hose aphids off with water. Use malathion or Orthene for loopers.

TO START feeding with cottonseed meal (about 1 tablespoon per 1-gallon potted plant or up to 2 cups per large plant in ground) after plant has finished blooming and every 4 to 6 weeks until mid-August.

TO STOP any transplanting now that the camellias are in their growth cycle. New plants can still be put in the ground through the end of May but may need special attention particularly on hot days.

DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PLACE tubers in starting medium such as vermiculite or sand. Keep in a warm place to sprout; beware of too much moisture.

TO PREPARE the planting area by adding humus and fertilizer.

TO PLANT sprouted tubers, sprout side up, six inches below ground surface, two inches from stake, and cover with two inches of soil. With little care they are easy to grow and dwarf and bedding types add much beauty to your garden.

TO MOISTEN, but **do not keep wet.**

TO PROTECT new growth from snails.

TO BE SURE to drive stake into ground **before** planting tubers.

EPIPHYLLUMS (Orchid Cactus)

George French

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED epiphyllums with a low nitrogen fertilizer.

TO CHECK trellis to be sure plants are well secured.

TO GIVE plants filtered sunlight to encourage development of buds.

TO BAIT for snails. Granules have proven effective when placed at the base of the plant. They leave little or no residue.

TO CHECK for drainage in April. Do not move plants at this time, but continue to feed for bloom; use Hi-Bloom or bloom-builder type to promote healthy buds and bloom.

TO TAKE cuttings.

TO REMOVE buds from a new plant; that energy needs to go to the root system.

FERNS

San Diego Fern Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FERTILIZE with high nitrogen liquid or pellets.

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO CATCH rain water for plants in covered areas.

TO DIVIDE, repot, or add leaf mold to those plants needing it.

TO SPRAY for aphids and scale.

TO PLANT spores.

TO USE vitamin B_1 after dividing; use per instructions on label.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO IRRIGATE when new growth begins, if the soil is not moist, to a depth of 3 feet.

TO APPLY fertilizer high in nitrogen. Most mature fruit trees require the equivalent of one pound of actual nitrogen annually. Divide the amount of fertilizer required into three equal lots and apply them six weeks apart, starting in the spring after new growth begins.

TO BEGIN thinning fruit of apples, pears, and stone fruit when they are about ½″ in size. Space fruit 4 to 6 inches apart or leave one fruit per spur. Thin early maturing varieties earlier and heavier than late maturing varieties.

TO CHECK trees for pests. Wash foliage periodically with a forceful spray of water to dislodge aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies. If a pesticide is needed, use a chemical that has short residual activity, such as insecticidal soap or pyrethrin to protect beneficial insects.

TO KEEP ants off trees by wrapping a band of heavy paper around the trunk and applying a barrier of Tanglefoot on it, or by scattering diazinon granules on the soil around the trunk.

TO SPRAY apples after bloom to control codling moth (wormy fruit). Apply diazinon after petals have fallen and twice more at two-week intervals.

TO APPLY sulfur dust to control powdery mildew on grapes when new shoots are 6, 12, 18, and 24 inches long. Then, every two weeks or as needed until harvest.

FUCHSIAS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PRUNE plants not done earlier.

TO PINCH new growth on plants pruned earlier. As the third set of leaves forms on new growth, pinch out the terminal set. This will result in a bushier plant.

TO FERTILIZE with any good balanced fertilizer.

TO WATCH for insects and treat accordingly.

TO WATER thoroughly the day before spraying.

TO CONTINUE taking cuttings from prunings.

TO CLEAN up fallen leaves, blooms and other trash.

GREEN THUMB ITEMS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CUTBACK to the basal foliage some herbaceous perennial plants: mums, columbine, coreopsis, some true geraniums, ornamental grasses, evening primrose, many salvias, and Shasta daisies.

TO PRUNE garden poinsettias in March and again in early July. Share your cuttings by giving 3 foot pieces to friends and neighbors.

TO PLANT high-moisture plants where fire-retardant plants are needed. Some desirable plants are sea fig, strawberry tree, carob tree, pineapple quava, oleander, dwarf coyote bush, and pomegranate.

HERBS

John Noble

NOW IS THE TIME.

TO DIG and amend the soil in any open areas of your herbal beds and borders.

TO FEED all your perennial herbs a little compost.

TO VISIT herb nurseries for starters and seeds. Try growing some annuals from seeds—anise, basil, cilantro, dill (abcd ...)

TO PRUNE back overgrown lavender, rosemary, thyme, lemon verbena, chaste tree, ...

TO PROTECT young plants from snails. Use organic practices, especially in an herb garden. Experiment with hand picking, beer traps, bran, copper barriers, and/or invite some possums for a midnight picnic.

TO HARVEST from our native herbs — sagebrush, white sage, black sage, Cleveland sage, yerba mansa, yerba santa, elderberry, ...

TO MAKE fresh herbal bouquets with mint, thyme, rosemary, sage,.... Fresh or dried they make great gifts for your gourmet friends.

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial County Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO START feeding low nitrogen, all-purpose, and liquid fish fertilizers.

TO WATER regularly if no rain.

TO CLEAN beds and keep weeds under control.

TO WATCH for pests—systemic sprays applied as a drench will usually free iris of aphids and thrips.

TO GIVE Japanese and Louisiana irises an application of an acid food—a camellia-type fertilizer is convenient to use.

ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REPOT *Cattleya* plants that have overgrown their pots. When new green growth starts and new root tips are about 2 inches long, you can plant the division, which should have two or three back bulbs to nourish it. This applies to species *Cattleya*s and *Laelia*s and some intergeneric hybrids.

TO MOVE *Cymbidium* plants to a shady area to keep blooms from fading. Do not rotate—spike will follow the light direction. Continue to feed low nitrogen fertilizer and protect from possible hail or rain.

TO CONTINUE to feed *Phalaenopsis*, which should be in their blooming glory at this time. Feed an even fertilizer, 1/4-strength every watering. On the 5th watering, use clear water to flush the salts from the potting media. Try not to rotate plants as you work with them.

TO PAY ATTENTION to air movement, good water, and careful feeding of *Oncidium*, *Odontoglossum*, and *Brassia*. They are not as forgiving as other genera—they may grow and not flower. Researching where and how they grow will reward you with some of nature's most unusual and brilliant flowers.

TO PROVIDE fairly high heat, humidity, and air movement to *Vanda*s and *Ascocenda*s. They are heavy feeders and require an even fertilizer. When in active growth, the root tips will be green and growing. Keep the roots damp, but not soggy, with fertilized water. Most of these plants are raised in a fairly open potting mix and have a number of aerial roots.

TO WATCH for slugs, snails, red spiders, mealybugs, and aphids, and treat as needed.

TO REMEMBER this month the show season starts almost everywhere. Going to the shows will give you an opportunity to see new plants, to attend free culture classes, and purchase new plants. Ask questions. Shows are where the knowledgeable congregate.

PELARGONIUMS

Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PROVIDE frost protection if needed to prevent damage to young, new growth.

TO WATER as needed If winter rains are heavy, prevent excessive moisture by planting in a well-drained soil. If the weather is warmer, plants may require more frequent watering.

TO WATCH FOR *Botrytis* (grey mold) caused by excessive moisture. If it appears, remove discolored leaves and aging flower heads, provide good air circulation, and allow soil to dry.

TO FEED with a ¼-strength solution of a balanced liquid fertilizer.

TO ROTATE pots to maintain well-shaped plants.

TO ENJOY the winter-growing species as well as early-blooming regals, angels, scenteds, and pansy-faced varieties.

ROSES

Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER deeply to encourage your bushes to produce strong stems and healthy foliage.

TO WATER roses day before feeding or spraying and again after feeding.

TO VARY the products used to provide the essential nutrients and micro-nutrients for your roses. Roses require a balanced diet to produce the **blooms** for which we grow them. High nitrogen will produce unusually tall bushes, which in many cases appear out of place in our home landscape, and that has contributed to too many negative comments about unattractive bushes. Along with the need for organic materials, we now recognize that nitrogen alone will seldom produce the quality and quantity of bloom we strive to produce.

TO VISIT your roses often to observe and enjoy their growth and revel in the beautiful early foliage.

TO CHECK daily for signs of unwanted pests, early signs of nutrition deficiency, and/or early weeds and grasses.

TO CONTROL aphids by washing them off with a strong stream of water from the hose in the early morning.

TO CONTROL thrips damage to blooms by using Orthinex (available in an atomizer spray) on blooms just as they begin to drop their sepals. Thrips become very active when the local uncared for vegetation dries up because of lack of moisture. Thrips distort the blooms by sucking the moisture from the petals and the bloom fails to open properly.

TO RECORD your garden maintenance efforts. Time does fly when you're having fun!

TO PREPARE to adjust your schedule to weather conditions. Foggy cool days are certain to encourage mildew in the rose garden and an early heat wave means you must water, water, water. To a limited degree, washing off your bushes in the early morning will delay mites and even early mildew.

TO LEARN rose terminology. Particularly become acquainted with the difference between a sucker and a basal break! A sucker is **unwanted** and a basal break is a beginning to a new cane, which is what we are trying to produce so we can cut off the old worn out canes at next year's pruning!

TO ENJOY your roses during these months, weather permitting, the months of glory for roses and rosarians.

TO ATTEND garden shows and appreciate all the wonderful plant materials that abound in Southern California.

TO PLAN for replacement varieties of roses during the growing season by observing carefully roses in gardens in your area. Usually roses that do well in the coastal areas will not have enough petals to produce good roses in the inland areas. Avoid roses that are susceptible to mildew.

(continued)

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE soil for planting by incorporating compost and a complete fertilizer high in phosphorus. Apply chemical fertilizers just before planting. If manures are used, apply them at least two weeks before planting and irrigate to leach salts from the surface soil. Apply twenty pounds of poultry manure or fifty pounds of steer manure per hundred square feet.

TO MAKE a last planting of cool season vegetables such as leaf lettuce, beets, and kohlrabi that will mature before hot summer weather arrives.

TO SET OUT tomato transplants after danger of frost has past. Delay planting beans, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, melons, peppers, and squash until the soil is warm. Use hot caps or floating row covers to promote faster growth.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS

from UC Cooperative Extension Publications

NOW IS ONE OF THE BEST TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: cabbage and eggplant.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: beans (lima, pole, snap), beets, carrots, chard, corn, cucumbers, endive, gourds, kale, lettuce (leaf), melons (cantaloupe, casaba), okra, onions (green), parsley, parsnips, peas (bush), peppers, radishes, spinach (in March), squash (summer and winter), tomatoes, turnips, and watermelon — ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, canterbury bells, carnations, celosia, coleus, cosmos, daisies (African), dusty miller, four o'clocks, impatiens, lobelia, marigold, morning glory, nasturtium, petunia, phlox, portulaca, salvia, scabiosa, statice, tithonia, verbena, vinca, zinnias.

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENJOY the longer days in the garden. If you're looking for a little fresh inspiration, attend any of the fine Spring Garden Shows or Botanical Garden Sales. There are many great plants at the various club and society shows and sales as well. See our calendar and affiliates sections for more details.

TO MEET new friends and visit with old ones at the 18 March San Diego Floral Association General Meeting. We need you feedback on the new format changes as well. Bring a flower, plant, seed, or bulb for the exchange table. Bring a friend to enjoy the meal. Bring your ideas to share.

TO VOLUNTEER to help with a project near you. SDFA always needs volunteers. So do your local schools, parks and public gardens. There is something available for every interest and skill level.

TO FEEL free to contact me at 619-579-8477 or 619-504-2017 with any comments or concerns.

Sincerely, John R. Allen, Pascua Farms and Nursery

COASTAL SAGE
GARDENING
GIFTS & SUPPLY
3685 VOLTAIRE
619-223-5229
Share in the Joy of Learning
www.BOTANYFORKIDS.com
www.INHARMONYHERBS.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ORCHID SOCIETY

NOW is the time to join! Learn how easy and fun it is to grow orchids. Meet the experts through society activities including lectures, tours, open houses, and classes.

The society meets the first Tuesday of every month at Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Cultural classes start at 6:30 p.m. in the library, followed by the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 101. Refreshments, orchid display, and an orchid raffle follow the meeting.

All this and a great monthly newsletter for only $10.00 (single membership) or $12.50 (dual membership) per year. Don't delay, make your check out today to the SDCOS and mail to:

Vivian Follmer
SDCOS Membership
13127 Roundup
San Diego, CA 92129
(619) 538-6187

"SPRING" INTO WATER CONSERVATION

BY LUIS GENEROSO

WARMER TEMPERATURES AND MORE daylight hours mean one thing, spring is right around the corner! For many people this means it is time for the traditional "spring cleaning" around the house. For others, it also means it is time to prepare their gardens for a season of successful growth. While getting everything tidied up both inside and outside the home, it is also a good idea to check your indoor and outdoor water use. Small improvements can add up to big water and monetary savings. Here are some ways you can incorporate water conservation into your spring-cleaning routine and landscape preparation:

Check the toilets, faucets, showers, and sprinklers for leaks, and replace valves as necessary. You can save up to 150 gallons a week for each leak. For a comprehensive inspection, sign up for the City of San Diego's free Residential Water Survey Program. A trained surveyor will analyze both your indoor and outdoor water use, and will make recommendations as needed. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 619-570-1999.

If you are starting to plan for your garden, visit the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College to gather some ideas on how you can create a water-wise garden that will be healthy and beautiful for the spring and summer seasons. The Garden has free admission and parking. For more information on the Water Conservation Garden, including hours of operation and special events, call 619-660-0614 or visit their website at www.thegarden.org.

In case we get some spring showers, make sure you clean out and redirect downspout gutters toward trees, plants, and other landscaped areas. Mother Nature's rain will then take care of watering your landscape at no cost. Prevent water, as well as your money, from being wasted by turning off your irrigation system when it rains.

Delay regular lawn watering during the first cool weeks of spring to encourage deep root growth to make a lawn healthier for the summer. It's also the perfect time to adjust your irrigation schedule. To create a free watering schedule tailored to your plants and lawn, visit the Water Conservation Program's website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation to access the free Landscape Watering Calculator.

For those who hose down their driveway, sidewalk, or patio on a weekly basis, up to 100 gallons can be saved if a broom is used instead. This also will prevent run-off of pollutants into our storm drains and beaches.

Cover your pool when it is not in use to prevent water evaporation—This also will prevent leaves and other dirt from falling in.

Spring-cleaning does not seem like a big chore when it results in long-term water savings and lowered utility bills. Try implementing a few tips at a time, and before you know it, using water efficiently will be second nature to you. "Spring" into water conservation and make it a part of your life.

The Water Conservation Program reduces water demand through promoting or providing incentives for the installation of hardware that provides permanent water savings, and by providing services and information to help San Diegans make better decisions about water use. For more information about Water Conservation, visit www.sandiego.gov/water or call 619-515- 3500.□

Luis Generoso is Water Resources Manager, City of San Diego.

JUG WATERING

BY CAROL BUECHERL

WITH ITS PROFUSION OF flowers and foliage, no casual observer would think San Diego has a perennial water problem. No water table, extreme heat especially common inland during summer months, and inadequate rainfall even in the "good" years—in short, it's a difficult climate.

When I moved to El Cajon from New York City, it was a shock to find that I had to deal with all the problems associated with a sub-desert area. It seemed wasteful to use a sprinkler system that spread water far beyond the actual plants, so I used it sparingly. My garden has gone through several makeovers in the last ten years and now virtually all the plants are drought tolerant or drought resistant, but even these need some regular watering.

During those years, I hit on a way of delivering water directly to the plants' roots: use gallon (at least) plastic containers with a pinhole punched near the base.

Sure, it is work intensive but there is almost no waste, and you control exactly how much water the plants get. With a sprinkler system, there is a tendency to overwater and not all plants require the same amount. If overwatered, some drought-resistant plants actually die. For large, densely planted areas this hand-placed watering method is obviously impractical. But for single lines of plants along fences, sides of the house or in areas where it just is not practical to run an irrigation line, it works.

And aside from holding down the water bills, watering from old jugs is a great way to meet your neighbors ("Just what is THAT?") and it is great exercise.

[Editor's note: Buecherl has plants, some 7 by 7 feet, such as *Hakea laurina* (sea urchin or pin cushion tree) and salvias and grevilleas that have been bottle-fed from the beginning.]□

HOW TO USE THE CONSERVATION GARDEN

BY JOYCE GEMMELL

LAST SUMMER, OUR THIRD YEAR of drought, brought plant selection and water conservation to the top of my garden maintenance list. As the summer progressed, well-established trees and shrubs began to show signs of stress. I could visualize the ground water seeping away. By July my garden had only the gray of drought-tolerant plants and the blue flowers of the plumbago. It needed a spot of color.

***Leucophyllum frutescens*, Texas ranger**

An outstanding, local resource for drought-tolerant gardening is the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College in El Cajon, cosponsored by the Helix and Otay Water Districts. At the Garden I found a mature planting of Texas Ranger (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) in bloom, the only shrub flowering among the gray and silver drought-tolerant plants.

I have been touring this garden from its early planting days. Now, three years later, I find it to be a renewable resource of seasonal flowering plants that can withstand dry times. The Garden has plants of mature size, plants that thrive in difficult conditions (such as steep banks and poor soil), and enables the visitor to see how these plants look in the wet season versus a hot, dry summer such as this last one.

Not only is plant education a priority here, but hardscape examples are shown as well, i.e., terracing or stabilizing a steep bank around raised beds. There is information on use of dry wells around trees when the grade is changed and how to minimize lawn areas by paving and planting patios. There are several good design examples for the home gardener.

Several native plants that can be found in the Garden are the Matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*), a prized perennial in Great Britain and the California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), already hybridized in Europe. There are also our native *Salvia* and *Eriogonum* species especially the beautiful St. Catherine's lace (*Eriogonum giganteum*), native to the California offshore islands and the red buckwheat (*Eriogonum grande rubescens*). The light, filtered shade of a Sonoran palo verde tree (*Cercidium praecox*) has a wide top and yellow blooms in spring.

I would highly recommend a visit to the Water Conservation Garden when you are contemplating your empty new backyard or when you plan a redesign of your current garden. Besides the plants themselves, there are numerous lists of trees and shrubs, ground covers and perennials of unthirsty plants. There will even be, very soon, an electronic guide to the Garden.

Water costs and/or availability may be the trigger for new thoughts and concepts in the garden. Plants that take very little or no summer water are adapted to our natural climate (wet winter/dry summer). There are plants that bloom profusely in late winter and early spring—ones that thrive on heat and full sun and bloom too!□

Joyce Gemmell was in the original San Diego Master Gardener class in 1983 and has been involved ever since. She has been teaching Grossmont Adult School classes for fifteen years.

BANGKOK GARDENS

BY ROBERT HORWITZ

YOUR TRAVELING GARDENER RECENTLY was in Bangkok, Thailand. What a contrast to San Diego! If you want a place to describe excitement, hurry-up-and-wait, beauty, squalidness, religion, and Heat and Humidity, this is the place. My son lives here and he and his friends ushered us around, showing us lots of places that are innate to Bangkok rather than touristy.

Many plants and trees that grow here can be found in San Diego and many more are new and strange. With that in mind, we went to a place called The Permanent Plant Market. Here, there were many independent dealers in all sorts of plants, living among their displays, cooking, eating, and selling.

Several things aroused my interest. There were myriads of bougainvillea mostly light pastel colors grafted onto one main trunk. The flowers displayed on these plants were fabulous. Alongside were many plants whose only name I could understand was Woman's Finger Nails, which resembled miniature fuchsias.

Ferns flourished here magnificently in the humid heat. I counted over thirty different types. I saw one staghorn that surprisingly seemed smaller than ours here. On the other hand, bird's nest ferns grow huge there with very big, wide, dark-green fronds. In one display, there were many little pots with miniature maidenhair ferns only an inch or two high.

Orchids! Bangkok has to be the orchid capital of the world. Seeing the range of sizes, colors, and varieties was awesome. They were as common around the city as geraniums are here. Many of the prettiest were *Epidendrum* varieties whose roots just dangle down from the plant without soil. The Thais tie these plants around tree trunks. In one museum there must have been one hundred twelve-inch diameter bowls filled with orchid blossoms. The humidity in the air and the prolific rainfall provides sufficient moisture for the orchid plants. They spray a fish emulsion fertilizer on the roots on occasion.

Along most of the streets are great trees. In some areas, one has to be careful walking under them as falling fruit can come down at any time. There were coconuts, papaya, guava, and one tree with long fruit that resembled two foot long bananas. The time of the year we were there was perfect for flowering tree varieties. Frustration under these conditions, because I lacked an easy way to identify both the plants and trees. Also, you are prohibited from trying to ship them home because of the possibility of insect and fungus contamination.

Bangkok is wonderful to visit and to immerse yourself into a very interesting Asiatic culture. The people speak Thai and English for the most part and are trying to emulate Western ways especially in commerce and on their television. □

Robert Horwitz is a retired space engineer who gardens in the Point Loma section of San Diego. Photograph by the author of a planting typical of those around temples and palaces.

A.D. ROBINSON'S DREAM
THE BALBOA PARK LATH HOUSE

BY BARBARA S. JONES

A.D. ROBINSON WAS a world-respected gardener, informed horticulturist, and gifted writer. From his arrival in 1903 until his death in 1940 he worked to help beautify San Diego. Not only did he garden at his estate named Rosecroft where the gardens, plantings, and lath house were world famous, but he was one of the founders of the San Diego Floral Association in 1907 and the magazine *California Garden* in 1909. In the first issue on 1 July 1909, he, the editor, states, "The objects are all toward a more beautiful city. Florally San Diego is a law unto itself, and this magazine hopes to emphasize the workings of this law."

The San Diego Floral Association was formed with the help of the Chamber of Commerce to encourage individual home owners to grow plants and beautify the city and their own homes. Alfred D. Robinson was the founding president. The aims of the Association were expanded to beautifying the city for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition. By 1911 the Exposition Committee was soliciting ideas from the public to make the exposition unique. In the August 1911 issue of *California Garden*, Alfred Robinson wrote in an editorial, "San Diego wants an Exposition and has the foundation for a park. She is preeminently the city of out of doors and it is when out of doors that she can bear comparison with any spot on earth. People come to her to get out-of-doors, day and night. How shall she hold an exposition unique in character, of moderate cost, yet sufficiently attractive to draw the stranger, give him his out door life, impress on his attention the glorious climate and at the same time improve the park. Supposing the Exposition be purely floricultural, horticultural, agricultural and a growing display at that...Other countries be invited to take a plot and grow a characteristic garden." Then on page 9 he wrote an article "An Exposition Dream." In this he describes the largest lath house ever projected as a pleasure resort. "Where the band played and we sat was in a large central court, 500 feet in diameter arched over by a domed roof rising fifty feet in the air." He then goes on to describe fragrant vines, exotic palms, plants of gaudy hue, etc. He visioned six side aisles filled with thousands of plants all properly labeled. The drawing is a reduced copy of the one made by A.D. Robinson of his "dream" lath house.

Well, his idea was taken up by the public and in the September 1911 issue *California Garden* published the following comments by members of the Panama-Pacific Exposition Committee: "A lath house that shall be a permanent and beautiful ornament to the park, and one of the features of the Panama Pacific exposition...Such a house would be one of the most beautiful and enjoyable things at the exposition, and after the exposition, it could remain in the park for the delight of thousands for years to come." (Jos. Sefton Jr. Acting Director-General.); "... we have the matter under contemplation, but as yet have not secured an appropriation." (J.C. Olmsted, Landscape Architect of Exposition); "A mammoth lath house covering 30,000 square feet, beautifully laid out and worked out on practical lines, would be the grandest thing of its kind in the world." (Irving Gill, Architect).

By 1912 the exposition was being known as the "Garden Exposition." The final plans did include the suggested foreign gardens and many of the other ideas A.D. Robinson dreamed or recommended in later articles. The lath house did become the feature of the Panama-Pacific Exposition and is still one of the main attractions of Balboa Park. The public loved the outdoor exposition — it ran for a second year. Balboa Park with its unique buildings and gorgeous gardens is still San Diego's main tourist attraction. Millions of tourists have and will continue to enjoy A.D. Robinson's dream. □

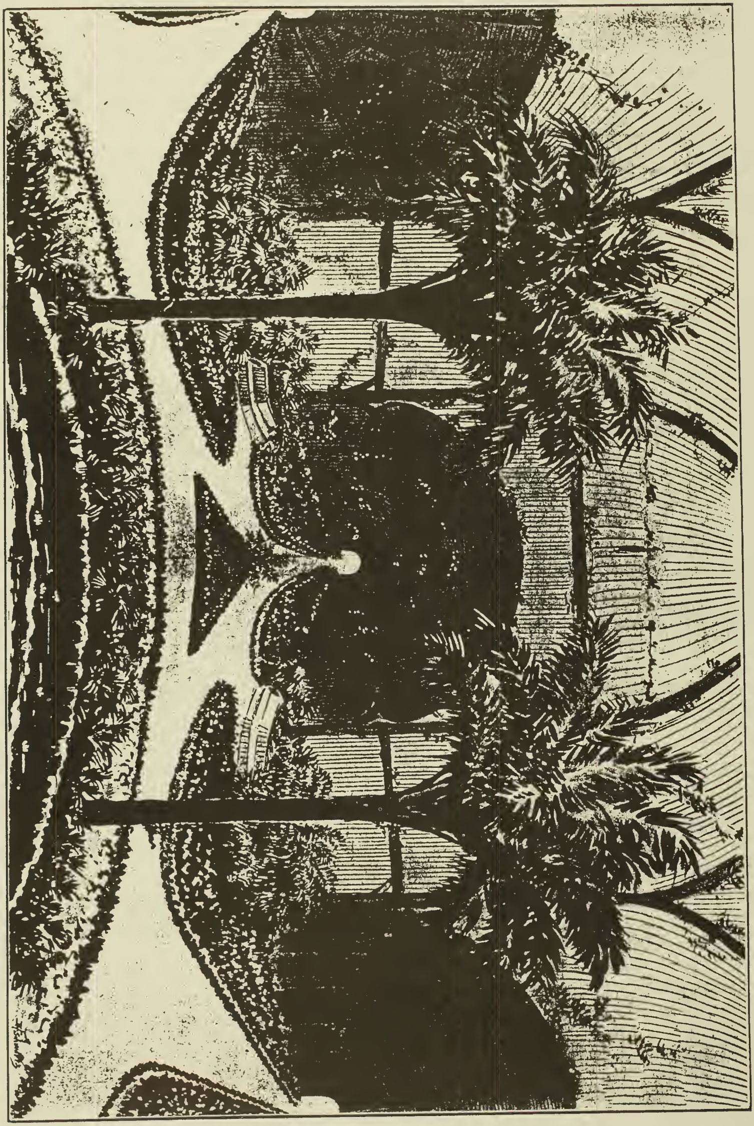
Barbara Jones, the Floral Association historian, remembers the lath house as a classroom for high school and college botany classes.

A PALACE OF LATH

A.D. Robinson wrote an article, "A Palace of Lath" for the March 1912 *Sunset* Magazine concerning the exposition and the climate of San Diego.

"In attempting to outline a floricultural scheme for the Panama-California Exposition to be held at San Diego in 1915, and which has been more or less treated of in *California Garden*, the organ of the San Diego Floral Association during the past year, the writer wishes it distinctly understood that, though he originated a part at least of the idea, he has no authority whatsoever to speak for the Exposition Directorate or any of its officials."

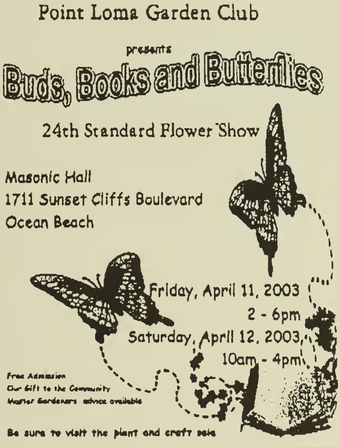
A.D. Robinson envisioned his lath house as being big enough to hold concerts.
In reality — the Balboa Park lath house was filled with plants.



Antonelli Brothers
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS
2545 Capitola Road
Santa Cruz, California 95062
18-page Catalog $1.00

ERRATA
January-February 2003, volume 94 No. 1, "The Great Stinkhorn Patch," page 28, *for* wwsw.collectivesource.com/hadrianus/ *read* www.collectivesource.com/hadrianus/.
for www.geary@cox.net *read* gearly@cox.net

Betty Newton received a number of responses for the species name of the succulent *Calandrinia*, which she wrote of in the January-February 2003 issue. Here is one she considers definitive: Jeanine De Hart, author of "Propagation Secrets for California Native Plants," writes that the name for that interesting succulent is *Calandrinia grandiflora*. The common name is Chilean sea kisses.


Point Loma Garden Club
presents
Buds, Books and Butterflies
24th Standard Flower Show
Masonic Hall
1711 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard
Ocean Beach
Friday, April 11, 2003
2 - 6pm
Saturday, April 12, 2003
10am - 4pm
Free Admission
Our Gift to the Community
Master Gardeners advice available
Be sure to visit the plant and craft sale

The Point Loma Garden Club will feature the Floral Association library at their 24th Standard Flower Show. All the Divisions and the Classes in the show will feature a book from Floral's library. Barbara Jones will write a short history about the library. We will list the number of books in each major category for use of the holticulture community and the public.

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK IN VIRGINIA
April 21-27, 2003

You are invited to journey with us on a wonderful adventure, a visit to Virginia for Historic Garden Week. This traditional event --now in its 70th year--provides access to dozens of the very best private gardens and historic homes. They are graciously opened to the public, some for the first time, as a part of this unique celebration. This is an extraordinary opportunity. It will be the peak blooming season for endless azaleas, dogwood, and tulips which bedeck roadsides and parkways. The entire state celebrates, but we will confine our activities to that most historic region: Colonial Williamsburg.

Our accommodations will be at a full-service hotel, so you will need to unpack only once. A private motorcoach will be used to explore the nearby areas of Richmond, Jamestown, Yorktown, Norfolk, and those venerable James River plantations.

We will dine at historic taverns, colonial inns, and modern restaurants, while touring homes built in 1640, 1790, and even 1922. There will be sufficient time to stroll the streets of Williamsburg and meet the costumed interpreters who add the perfect ambiance to this town, which has been rebuilt to look like it did 200 years ago.

Another bonus is the 90 acres of gardens in Williamsburg itself, where perennials, annuals, biennials, and bulbs display another kind of uprising.

Package includes: Round-trip airfare, 6 nights hotel accommodations, baggage handling for 1 suitcase, all admissions, taxes, gratuities, a full breakfast, and either lunch or dinner daily. Escorted by Helen Gagliardi (619-449-1648). Only $1,600 sharing double, $1,835 single. Deposit $200.

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK IN VIRGINIA--SDFA TRIP

Clip (or copy) and mail to SDFA Tours,
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622

Name: ____________________

Address: ____________________

City/State/ZIP: ____________________

Telephone: ____________________

Amount enclosed: ____________________

Book Reviews

FUCHSIAS: A Practical Step-by-Step Guide

Carol Gubler

No. Pomfret, Vt., Distributed by Trafalgar Square Publishing, 2002, 144 pages, 300 color photos, 9″ x 10″, hardcover, $22.95

Hardiness and diversity are not always the first characteristics that fuchsias bring to mind, but as this book so beautifully illustrates, they are adaptable and will flourish in many environments. Their variety of color and form has led to serious addictions among gardeners who initially intended to only try one or two.

The diversity of fuchsia species is covered by the opening chapters, followed by basic information about selecting, planting, and nurturing them. Instructions about propagation, potting, and "pinching out" complete the first major section. Next comes a section on how to grow fuchsias in a variety of shapes and situations. Troughs and window boxes, hanging baskets, or bonsai are clearly described and illustrated with high-quality color photos that are found throughout the book.

No one has ever said that fuchsias are carefree, but the content of this book does ease the task with its very specific information. The final section contains more detailed instructions on fuchsia maintenance, propagation, and potential problems, particularly pests and diseases. Not all fuchsia varieties could be included at the end of the book, but there is a representative selection of the various bloom types and a survey of new styles in fuchsia flowers, as well as a section on old varieties. Gardeners interested in horticultural development may find this to be of special interest.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

CACTUS ODYSSEY: Journeys in the Wilds of Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina

James D. Mauseth, Roberto Kiesling, and Carlos Ostolaza

Portland, Timber Press, 2002, 318 pages, 191 color photos, 4 maps, 6″ x 9″, hardcover, $39.95

This odyssey leads three botanists who specialize in the cacti of South America to diverse areas: rain forests of Bolivia, the foggy coast and mountains of Peru, and windy, cold Patagonia in Argentina. Not the first climates you would think of when searching for cacti. Mauseth is now at the University of Texas in Austin, Kiesling is a native of Argentina and a former professor of biogeography, and Ostolaza, from Peru, a retired doctor of medicine.

I don't know when I have read a book that offered so much information in such an accessible format. The first chapter introduces cacti by discussing characteristics that distinguish cacti from other plants, and the division of the family into three subfamilies: Cactoideae, Opuntioideae, and Pereskioideae. These are described very clearly. Interspersed within the chapters relating their travels and finds are explanatory sections on "Spine Clusters", "Cephalia", and the parasitic relationship between *Trichocereus chilensis* and *Tristerix aphyllus* (mistletoe). The photos are excellent with many close-ups of spines, cephalia, flowers, and fruits. These are extremely helpful in understanding the text. My favorite photo is of a specimen of *Melocactus*. The description reads, "The tall, red, narrow structure at the top is the cephalium. Its stem is slender and its spines and hairs are packed so highly together the stem is not even visible. The plant will continue to grow only as cephalium now; it cannot add to the green tissue at the bottom." The RHS Dictionary describes cephalium as "a woody growth bearing flowers, terminating the stem of certain cacti,"

One cacti they were looking for, *Maihuenia poeppigii*, occurs only at high altitudes. To find it they look for *Araucaria araucana* since the cactus is usually found near that tree. It is these bits of extraneous information that make the book so enjoyable.

Reviewed by R. Cox

FEAST YOUR EYES: The Unexpected Beauty of Vegetable Gardens

Susan J. Pennington

Berkeley, Univ. of California Press, 2002, 142 pages, 113 color photos, 10″ x 8½″, softcover, $29.95

Indeed, this book is a feast for the eyes. The author, an Enid A. Haupt Fellow in Horticulture at the Smithsonian Institution, 1999-2001, has told in the most engaging way, the terrific story of ornamental vegetable gardening from the seventeenth century through the twentieth century.

Gardeners, today, frequently want to create the "new" vegetable garden that is a pleasure to the eye as well as a source of fresh produce. Flowers and vegetables are frequently mixed together in the most appealing ways. How did we get to where we are today?

Truly the fabulous seventeenth century and eighteenth century formal gardens at Chateau Villandry, Williamsburg, Mt. Vernon, and others were a part of the landscape to be admired. They have been restored and are visited often by excited gardeners. On the smaller lots of today these gardens cannot be reproduced, but the essence of them surely can be and is being reproduced.

Pennington lets us "see" how in the nineteenth century vegetable gardens became more natural and were being hidden away because they lacked eye appeal. Beauty had to be expressed on the artists' canvass with a still life painting of the vegetables once harvested.

War and Victory Gardens began to appear in the twentieth century during WWI and WWII. Tomatoes, carrots, corn, cabbage, and lettuce flourished. Red, white, and blue flowers were often added to beautify the Victory Gardens. Sometimes the setup was reversed and vegetables were added to an established flower garden. Victory Gardens appeared in the Japanese American internment camps also. Other landscape was also added to these camps. It was important for the American Japanese to show that they were patriotic. It was also important to them to beautify their environment. Many, before the war, had been in the landscape business. Following WWII, housing tracts were developed, people had smaller lots and vegetable gardens more or less disappeared. However, as the 70s approached, once again homeowners were creating vegetable gardens. Lots were still small and so flowers and vegetables began to blur into one garden. Even ornamental vegetables, such as kale and peppers, had been developed and were being planted in gardens.

Dean MacCannell says it all for this book with the quotation, "Captivating and inspiring, this book will appeal to anyone who has ever tried to grow something and eat it." And I say that, once read, this book will have the gardener out there in the garden designing a "new" vegetable-flower garden.

Reviewed by Suzie Heap

SUCCULENTS FOR THE CONTEMPORARY GARDEN

Yvonne Cave

Portland, Timber Press, 2003, 176 pages, 346 Color photos, 8¼" x 9¾", hardcover, $29.95

Agave or *Aloe*? *Echeveria* or *Crassula*? For those who know the difference, and for those who have given up trying, this handsome volume is sure to encourage the growing of these ever-hardy plants. Full color photos on the same page as the relevant plant descriptions will catch the attention of even the most casual browsers.

Settling in for a more serious look, the reader will find a twelve page introduction that covers all the necessary general information about cultivation, propagation, and pests and diseases. The author then provides a glossary of genera from a wide variety of plant families, whose ability to store water has placed them in the subject category. Whether a large water-storing base, or caudex, or leaves and stems with a small surface area, or pores that breathe only in the cool of the night, these plants are sometimes bizarre in appearance, but often the most rewarding plant for Southern California gardeners.

Each plant description includes native regions, growing needs, approximate sizes, flower color and possible uses. The latter features are usually medicinal, although sometimes culinary as well. Plant care discussions are on a very practical level, whether for large scale landscaping, or container or indoor gardening.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

THE PLANTFINDER'S GUIDE TO GARDEN FERNS

Martin Rickard

Portland, Timber Press, 2000, 192 pages, 121 color photos, 20 line drawings, 7½" x 10¼", hardcover $34.95 (softcover published February 2003, $24.95)

Ferns are among the most primitive of plants, having shared the planet with dinosaurs who cared not that their favorite food failed to produce a flower. Eons later, we have fern fanciers who treasure these leafy species for their delicate structure and undemanding natures, if planted in the right place. In most instances, this means shade and fairly good drainage; a few genera prefer bogs, but they are in the minority.

The author, a recognized grower and fern expert in England, has put together an attractive encyclopedia of ferns, with color photos of his subject as seen in the ground and as botanical specimens. A history of fern discovery and the botany of ferns introduces a general discussion of choosing and using ferns in home gardens. A comprehensive list of fern species follows, with all known names, both botanical and common, regions of origin, size, site preferences, and key distinguishing features of each species. USDA zone categories are included in the descriptions. A careful reading and retention of the preceding section on botany will help the reader get the most out of this section.

Plant propagation from spores leads to a description of the life cycle of ferns. The author maintains that the apparent complexity of this process is basically simplified by Mother Nature, as long as the right conditions for germination and nurture are provided. Many gardeners prefer to take the easier road by dividing creeping rhizomes or split crowns. Nurturing frond bulbils is another possibility; it's refreshing to note that the author regards the more rarefied technique of tissue culture as "something of a mystery." The variety in size and shape of ferns as well as the range of growing conditions from dry to damp should inspire their use by local gardeners.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library - Founded in 1907

MAIL — 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego CA 92101-1622

619/232-5762, located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS 2003

April 15
June 17
October 21
Casa del Prado room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

OFFICERS

President
Karin Kratz
First Vice President
Dee Krutop
Second Vice President
Ann Waters
Treasurer
John Sandy
Recording Secretary
Lynn Beyerle
Corresponding Secretary
Linda Berger
Parliamentarian
JoAnn Gould
Historian
Barbara S. Jones

DIRECTORS

Term 2000-2003
Jacqueline Coleman
JoAnn Gould
Mary Jordan
Term 2001-2004
Dorothy Driscoll
Ann Mendez
Alice Retes
Term 2002-2005
Mort Brigadier
Dee Krutop
Annette Reid
Arrangers Guild Chm.
Carvill Veech

AFFILIATES:

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.
Exec. Director: Maureen Austin 619-445-8352
CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Michiko Munda 858-274-5473
JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN
BALBOA PARK
Contact: Luanne Lao 619-232-2721
PALOMAR DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
Dir: Sarah Beers 760-749-2140
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS
FOUNDATION, INC
Executive Director: Julian Duval 760-436-3036
SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN
FOUNDATION
Pres: Victor Tongco 619-234-8901
SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Pres: Susi Torre-Bueno 858-756-2579
2nd Mon - 6:30 pm, except June
Satellite Wagering Facility
Del Mar Fairground, Jimmy Durante Blvd
SAN DIEGO ZOO
Horticulture Dept 619-231-1515 Ext. 4298
SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL
Chr: Muriel Baze 858-756-3443
1st Wed - 10:30 am
Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, May—North County Fair, Escondido, Community Room
TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY
Contact: Takashi Ijichi 619-464-0544
1st Thu - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado
Feb, Mar, Apr, Sep, Oct, Nov
WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN
Librarian: Sherry Johnson 619-670-2250

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS
P. O. Box 2711 858-459-0316
La Jolla CA 92038-2711
DEL MAR FAIR FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
The West Coast's Best 858-792-4273
MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.
3089C Clairemont Drive #296 619-296-9687
San Diego CA 92117-6802
JIM STELLUTI
CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST
1928 Madison Avenue 619-298-7641
San Diego CA 92116-2722
WEIDNER'S BEGONIA GARDENS
695 Normandy Road 760-436-5326
Leucadia CA 92024-1897

GARDEN CLUBS:

ALPINE GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Carlette Anderson 619-445-5716
1st Fri - 10:00 am, Homes of Members
BERNARDO GARDENERS
Pres: Clara Garner 858-592-9533
3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Rancho Bernardo Library
BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Peggy Burley 619-479-9838
E-mail: jburley@hotmail.com
Cell: 619-246-4759
2nd Wed - 9:30 am, Rohr Park Manor, Sweetwater Road
BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Betty Reynolds 619-435-0949
4th Monday - 9:30 am, Winn Room, Coronado Public Library
CARLSBAD NEWCOMERS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Patricia Smutz 760-931-2615
2nd Wed - Call for meeting information
CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marion Beecroft 619-479-7265
3rd Thu - 12:00 pm, Norman Park Senior Center
CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Pres: Sondi Arndt 619-437-0199
CROWN GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Helen Behner 619-435-5943
4th Thu - 9:30 am, Coronado Library
DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Roger Ramey 760-751-1906
E-mail: rameylr@jnetimes.net
2nd Tue - 12:30 pm, Valley Center Com. Hall
ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Sue Havenor 760-743-7037
3rd Fri - 12:30 pm, Escondido Joslyn Center
Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY
FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Jerri Patchett 760-723-8635
E-mail: fjpatchett@aol.com
3rd Wed - 7:00 pm, FPUD Bldg on Mission Rd
Last Thu - 9:30 am, Fallbrook Presbyterian Church on Stage Coach
FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB
Chrm: Judy Courtemanche 858-459-6098
2nd Mon - 10:30 am, Homes of Members
LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Carolyn Doggett 858-488-5853
E-mail: cmdoggett8@cs.com
3rd Tue - 1:30 pm, L.J.Lutheran Church
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219
4th Mon - 2:00 pm - Rancho Bernardo Library (new), 2nd floor
LAS JARDINERAS
Pres: Gayle Stephenson 619-224-9601
3rd Mon - 10:30 am, Homes of Members
MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB
Pres: Edie Sahlin 760-433-9664
3rd Sat - 12:45 pm, MiraCosta Community College, Student Center Bldg (upstairs)
Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY
MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marien Kissling 619-542-0880
4th Wed - 6:30 pm
Oct thru Mar - Methodist Church at Lark and Fort Stockton
Apr thru Sep - Mission Hills Nursery
POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Sandra Dysart 858-454-3745
2nd Wed - 10:00 am, Masonic Hall
1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd
POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Nancy Clever 760-746-3310
2nd Wed - 9:00 am, Lake Poway Pavilion
RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Donna Ferrier 858-756-1554
SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Dorothy Driscoll 619-463-6700
4th Tue - 9:30 am, Homes of Members
SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Donna Golich 858-755-4986
4th Wed - 9:30 am, Quail Bot. Gardens
VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
Pres: Sandy McCreight 858-454-7467
4th Thu - 10:00 am, Torrey Pines Christian Church, LJ

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (CONTINUED)

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Rosella Pelzer 760-724-7656
1st Fri - 12:00 pm, Vista Senior Center

IKEBANA SCHOOLS:

ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Haruko Crawford 619-660-2046
IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
Pres: Ms. Rumie Rice 760-729-1554
4th Wed - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado
IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 858-278-5689
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
LA JOLLA CHAPTER 858-672-7850
2nd Tues - 10:00 am, La Jolla Library
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Mrs. Walter Bourland 619-276-4667
SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO BRANCH
Director: Ronald Searfoss 858-459-5961
SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
Master Instructor: Sumiko Lahey 619-429-6198

PLANT SOCIETIES:

AFRICAN VIOLET
CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Pres: Barbara Conrad 858-759-6746
4th Mon - 10:00 am, Vista Library,
700 Eucalyptus Avenue

BEGONIA
ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Doris Smith 619-222-1294
2nd Tue - 10:30 am, Homes of Members
MABEL CORWIN BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919
2nd Sun - 1:30 pm, except May & Aug
Quail Gardens
MARGARET LEE BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Michael Ludwig 619-262-7535
Last Sat - 10:30 am, Homes of Members

BONSAI
HON NON BO ASSOCIATION
Pres. Lit Phan
1st Sun every other month (begin Feb)
10:30 am, Casa del Prado
SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
Information Telephone 619-699-8776
2nd Sun - 10:30 am, Casa del Prado
Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 am before meeting

BROMELIAD
BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK
Pres: Robert Vitacco 619-469-3539
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado
SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Tom Knapik
2nd Sat - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado
EXCEPT Nov & Dec
NORTH COUNTY BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Margaret Case 760-721-8422
4th Sun - 1:00 pm, Ecke Building
Quail Gardens

CACTUS & SUCCULENT
PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
4th Sat - 12:15 pm, Joslyn Sr Ctr, Escondido
SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Pam Badger 619-589-1223
2nd Sat - 1:00 pm, Casa del Prado

CAMELLIA
SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919
3rd Wed - 7:00 pm, Casa del Prado
Meetings Nov through Apr ONLY

DAHLIA
SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Pres: David J. Tooley 858-672-2593
E-mail: djsj21643@aol.com
4th Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)
SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Contact: Kathy Payne 760-789-5790
1st Sat - 10:00 am, Sep thru May
Quail Gardens

EPIPHYLLUM
SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Phil Peck 619-491-9495
Website: www.epiphyllum.com
2nd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FERN
SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Robin Halley 858-454-2234
3rd Thu - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FRUIT
CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS
Chair: Bill Burson 858-748-0474
4th Thu - 7:00 pm, Casa del Prado
Nov & Dec ONLY, 3rd Thu

FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANTS
SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA AND
SHADE PLANT SOCIETY
Pres: Richard Hubbell 619-443-3706
2nd Mon - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

GERANIUM
SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Cynthia Lohry 619-469-8936
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

HERB
THE HERB CLUB
Pres: Judy Dunning 619-579-0222
2nd Thu - 7:00 pm, Call for location

IRIS
SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES
IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Ken Pierson 760-765-3434
E-mail: ken112@abac.com
2nd Sun - 1:00 pm
Call for newsletter and location
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Eileen Fiumara 818-986-4188
1st Thu - 7:30 pm -
Canoga Park Women's Club,
7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

NATIVE PLANTS
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 619-685-7321
3rd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219
4th Mon - 2:00 pm - Rancho Bernardo
Library (new), 2nd floor

ORCHID
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
Pres: Warren Stehle 760-729-0467
3rd Wed - 7:00 pm, Carlsbad Women's Club
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres. Gary Pierwola 619-426-9108
E-mail: keikiman@aol.com
1st Tues - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

ORGANIC
BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mary McMahon 619-422-4017
4th Tue - 7:00 pm, Bonita Valley Baptist Church
EXCEPT Aug & Dec

PLUMERIA
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY
Pres: Ken Ames 619-443-4795
4th Sun - 1:00 pm-3:00 pm, Feb thru Oct
Casa del Prado, Room 104
Information: Ken Ames 858-454-5475
E-mail: kenasplumeria@aol.com

ROSE
EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Roger English 619-582-3794
1st Sun - 2:00 pm, except Jul & Aug
Gardens of Members
SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Steve Berry 619-235-0004
3rd Mon - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado
EXCEPT Jan & Feb - 4th Mon
No meetings Jul & Aug

TREES
PEOPLE FOR TREES
Contact: Pat Stevenson 619-222-TREE
FAX: 619-223-8733
E-mail: adoglover1@juno.com

WATER GARDEN
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
President: Ed Simpson 760-436-3704
3rd Sun - Apr thru Oct
Website:groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarden
E-mail: dc@pondplants.com
Call for meeting information.

AFFILIATES:
Send changes to: Lynn Beyerle, Affiliates Editor, *California Garden*, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego CA 92101-1622. Call 619-232-5762.
E-mail: membership@sdfloral.org
1Deadline for May-Jun issue: Mar15,2003

Are you aware that each affiliate group is entitled to a free advertisement once each year? It should be "camera ready" (suitable to be sent to printer). The text should be enclosed in a border. The border must be included when measuring dimensions, which are to be 3.5 (3½) inches wide by 2.25 (2¼) inches high. If done on a computer, please use a font that does not resemble typewriting.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION CRAFT and FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES

CASA DEL PRADO, ROOM 104, BALBOA PARK
9:30AM to 2:00PM
Bring a lunch, coffee provided
Register with San Diego Floral Association office, 619/232-5762, Call MARIE WALSH 619/298-5182 for more information.

PLEASE PREREGISTER!

BASIC PINE NEEDLE CLASS: A BASKET OR SMALL TRAY

Tuesday, 11 March 2003

Instructor: Martha Rosenberg. Beginners welcome.
FEE: $20.00 members, $25.00 nonmembers. Pine needles provided. Bring a hand towel and small bucket.

GOURD ETCHING, STAINING, AND BURNING

Tuesday 18 AND 25 March 2003

Instructor: Mary Jean Wydro, come and see a master work and see how it's done.
FEE: $30 for two-day class, includes one gourd. All supplies included and tools available for classroom use. Extra gourds will be available for purchase.

FLOWER ARRANGING

Tuesday, 1 April 2003

Instructor: Carvill Veech, award-winning designer shares her techniques. Participants should bring containers, clippers, and floral material, which should include showy blooms, filler flowers, and greenery.
FEE: $15 members, $20 nonmembers

CLASSES WANTED

DATE

AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ . . . .
Make check payable to San Diego Floral Association.
SEND TO: San Diego Floral Assoc., 1650 El Prado, #105,
San Diego CA 92101-1622

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS

CITY, ZIP

BAMBOO CONSTRUCTION

Tuesday, 8 April 2003

Instructor: Kathy Walsh
Come and work with bamboo. Bamboo supplied.
FEE: $25.00

AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY FLOWER ARRANGING

Tuesday, 15, 22 & 29 April 2003

Instructor: Velma West
FEE: $45 members, $50 nonmembers for a series of three classes. Students must supply containers, clippers, and floral material, which should include showy blooms, filler flowers, and greenery. Prepare for "Art Alive" at San Diego Museum of Art.

FUTURE CLASSES

6 May - Unique Basketry with Alice Retes
13 May - Bird House-Feeder or just decorate a gourd, with Jewel Nagel
20 May - Big Natural Basket from Nature, with Martha Rosenberg and Kathy Walsh

You are Invited to Subscribe to ...

California GARDEN

The PERFECT gift to a friend, relative or neighbor!

1 Year Subscription	$8.00
2 Year Subscription	$15.00

add $6.00 per year for postage to foreign destinations

or become a Member of -

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP $10.00
(Includes magazine, newsletter, botanical library, and member discounts to events, trips and classes)

(Please PRINT)
Name ______________________________
Address ______________________________
City ______________ State ____ ZIP ________
Phone (_______)______________________________

San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado,
San Diego, CA 92101-1622 [in Casa del Prado, Balboa Park]

Beautiful Plants for Sale at Moderate Prices

MiraCosta Horticulture Club
of Oceanside
7th annual Gardener's Market Plant Sale
including mounted staghorn ferns
Saturday, April 5 (rain date April 6)
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Where: Wal-Mart west Oceanside store
2100 Vista Way
Jefferson freeway exit in Oceanside
Come meet the friendly club. (760) 643-0177

CONSULTING
LANDSCAPE
ARTIST

Jim Stelluti

SIMPLIFY & ENHANCE
30YRS.

EXTRAORDINARY
PLACEMENT of
OBJECTS & PLANTS

1928 MADISON AVENUE . SAN DIEGO, CA 92116-2722 . 619-298-7641

San Diego Horticultural Society

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month, 6:30pm
Free Admission – Everyone Welcome!

Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.

Join us for a guest speaker, plant sales, plant display. Meetings are open to all. Membership brings you:

- Monthly 26-page newsletter
- Trips to outstanding gardens
- Local garden tours
- Discounts at Nurseries
- Seed & plant swap
- Video and book library
- Annual Garden Party
- and much more!

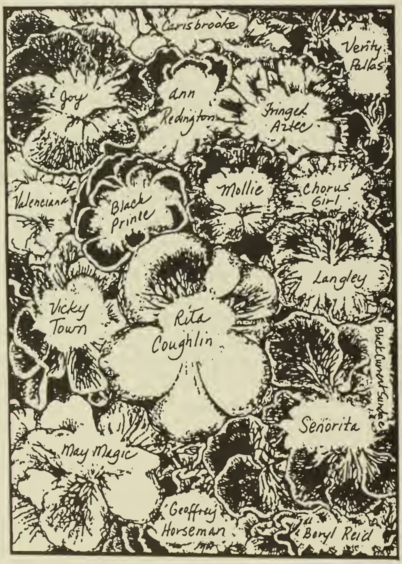
Upcoming Events & Meetings:

Mar. 10: Special Speaker Dan Hinkley, 7:30pm
Spend a special evening with the founder of renowned Heronswood Nursery as he talks about plant collecting in Chile, Turkey, Vietnam, and Nepal. Dan will also autograph copies of his book, *The Explorer's Garden*, and books will be sold at a discount to SDHS members.
Admission: $15/SDHS members, $18/non-members

Apr. 14: Monthly meeting (free), 6:30pm
Garden writer **Karen Dardick** will speak about Estate Gardens of California.

Info: www.sdhortsoc.org
or (858) 756-2579

San Diego Horticultural Society


Carisbrooke
Verity Pallas
Joy
Ann Redington
Fringed Aztec
Valenciana
Black Prince
Mollie
Chorus Girl
Langley
Vicky Town
Rita Coughlin
Black Current Sundae
Señorita
May Magic
Geoffrey Horseman
Beryl Reid

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego CA 92101-1622 USA

PERIODICALS POSTAGE